

1. *S^r* Frank of Cranfield Bedfordshire Novemb^r 22. 1699 to *M^r* Chamberlaine, proposes to this Society an Addition to be made to their first Circular Letter.
2. *M^r* Bedford of Bristol Novemb^r 27. 1699 to *M^r* Shute, Signifies that some Lay Societies for Reformation are erected there. That the Clergy about 3 Monthes since began a monthly meeting, but discontinued it, and that he had some hopes of reviving it.
3. *M^r* Yeate A.D. of Marlborough Novemb^r 28th 1699 from Marlborough to *M^r* Shute Signifies his approbation of the Designe of Schools, as the great foundation of a generall and lasting Reformation. and advises that some persons take a weekly account of the Childrens proficiencie. — That the Children and youth be duly catechized — That Catechetical Lectures be sett up instead of Lecture Sermons — That the best Christians in his owne parish are those whom he hath Led from the Desk to the Altar — That 50 poor children have been taught on Charity in his parish, and that by the death of the Benefactors he has been forced to lay downe the Schoole after above seaven years Continuance — Promises to contribute twenty shillings yearly during life to D^r Brays designe — Wishes every parish Church in England were furnished with D^r Combers folio. in Wilsh.

- 4 M^r. Bowen of Pembroke Novemb^r: 29th 1699. to S^r. John Phillips. saith
the Clergy are zealous to promote reformation, and intend to unite very
speedily — that the Gentry have begun to subscribe towards the Designe
of Schools. 12
- 5 M^r. Lewis of Aekryseⁱⁿ Kent Novemb^r: 30th 1699 to M^r. Hodges, accepts the
Correspondence. 13
- 6 M^r. William Powell Decemb^r: 5th 1699 to D^r. Evans, accepts the Correspondence
of Llangattock Brickhowel near Abergavenny Monmouthshire. 14
- 7 D^r. Rob^t. Wynne of Gressford in Denbyshire Decemb^r: 8th 1699. to D^r. Evans
saith that he had Communicated the D^r's Letter to the Clergy at their
meeting, who were well pleased with the Contents of it, their Union being
to the same excellent purposes — That they had agreed on two
particulars, to bring an Account of what practice each member
observed in his parish contrary to the Rubricks and Cannons. 2. That
each person make a Notitia of his parish. 15
- 8 M^r. Price of Wrexham Flintshire Decemb^r: 9th 1699 to D^r. Evans, saith that
he had communicated his Letter to the Society there, who rejoiced at the
contents of it. 16
- 9 M^r. John Williams A. Deacon of Swansea Glamorganshire Decemb^r: 11th 1699 to S^r. Humphry Mackworth, accepts the correspondence. 17
- 10 M^r. Rob^t. Wynne Aect. of Llandemolen near Bangor in Carnarvonshire
Decemb^r: 14th 1699 to D^r. Evans, saith — That the Bishop of Bangor had
given a strict charge to his Clergy to meet frequently & had given
them directions to that purpose — that the Clergy of each Deanery
unite together — That the Bishop is personally present at one or other
of the meetings, the Clergy thro^{ut} the whole Diocese being associated. 18
- 11 D^r. Jones Dean of Bangor Decemb^r: 16. 1699. from Beau maris saith
That he has sett up Schools for the poorer sort at his owne Charge. but
late their poverty is so great that they cannot allow themselves time
to Learne — That he has made it his business to recomend D^r. Bray's
designe but taxes, want, and poverty, is the constant answer — That
there are very few deluded people in those parts, and that ignorance
and unconcernedness are the reigning diseases. 20

- 12 M^r: Meyrick of Carmarthen Decemb^r. 29. 1699 to D^r: Evans, accepts the correspondence
- 13 M^r: Tatam of Sutton on the hill in Derbyshire Jan: 3. 1699. to M^r: Hodges accepts the correspondence
- 14 M^r: Ellis of Gonalston Nottinghamshire Jan: 8. 1699. to M^r: Hodges. accepts the Correspondence
- 15 M^r: Lisle of Gisborough North ~~east~~ ^{in Yorksire} Riding Jan: 13. 1699. to M^r: Hodges accepts the Correspondence
- 16 M^r: Colmer of Babcary Somersetshire Jan: 16. 1699 to M^r: Skute, accepts the Correspondence
- 17 M^r: Burscough of Totnesse Devonshire Jan: 20th 1699 to M^r: King - accepts the correspondence
- 18 ^{Decd.} D^r: Hopkins of Worcester Jan: 22. 1699. to D^r: Hayley, accepts the correspondence.
- 19 M^r: Gilbert of Locko Derbyshire Jan: 20th 1699 to M^r: Hodges. saith. That the Clergy of that County are unwilling to unite in Societies, till they have order from their Bishop, and advises that the Bishop should be prevailed with to write to M^r: Horton, Minister of All Saints in Derby. The Minister of Morley of the same date advises the same thing.
- 20 D^r: Tyler Dean of Hereford Jan: 23. 1699 to D^r: Hayley, accepts the correspondence.
- 21 M^r: Davies ^{living at} ~~Minister of~~ ^{a private seat in St Asaph parish} Bodwythan Flintshire Jan: 27. 1699. to D^r: Evans saith, That the Clergy had mett and agreed to the same Articles with those at Wrexham, only deemed it proper to remove their monthly Lectures from place to place, to receive the Sacrament, and make a Collection for the poor and distribute the Alms, every meeting — The circular Letter was communicated to all the Clergy their present

- 22 M^r. Ellis of Gonalston Nottingham Shire Jan: 27th 1699, gives hopes of a meeting of the Clergy about Nottingham — desires to be informed how far he may communicate the papers of this Society, and in what method. The Clergy in those parts have not seen the Arch Bishop of Canterburys Letter.
- 23 M^r. Ellison Jan: 27: 1699 from New castle Northumberland to S^r. George Wheeler, saith, That the Towne of Newcastle hath made the Education and Catechizing of youth very easy and Cheap, and that many poor are taught gratis — That the Towne hath provided two Catechetical Lectures. He hopes the traders to America will furnish Libraries there — proposes that every Author of an usefull Book should give one or two copies to the plantations — promises his utmost assistance in discouraging Immorality and prophaneſſe.
- 24 M^r. John Tatam of Sutton on the hill in Derbyshire Jan: 27. 1699 tells M^r. Hodges that he supposes he has received hints from another hand, where the Reformation in those parts sticks, and is ready to give account of other difficulties started with designe to stop it's progress, and to propose a method to remove them.
- 25 J^r. William Dawes from Hobbing in Essex to M^r. Nelson Feb: 4th 1699 accepts the Correspondence.
- 26 M^r. Humphrys from Harlech Merionethshire to D^r. Evans — Feb: the 6th 1699 accepts the Correspondence.
- 27 M^r. Welchman from Lapworth worwickshire to M^r. Chamberlayne Feb: 12: 1699. accepts the Correspondence.
- 28 M^r. Willett of Stratton near Cirencester Gloucestershire Feb: 12: signifies to the Society his approbation of the Societys for Reformation, and their methods, and his own readines to promote their designe — desires the advice of this Society, and adds, that the Clergy are well disposed towards it, and that they are very happy in a sober, prudent Gentry, and advises that application be made to them.

29 M^r Bradshaw of Namptwick Cheshire Feb: 12. 1699 to M^r Chamberlayne saith, That 400 of Le Clerks Letters had been dispersed in those parts by a Member of Parliament — that the inundation of vice is owing to the toleration — that in order to suppress it we must have more Religious magistrates — desires M^r Chamberlayne to signify the designe of this Society to the Bishop of Chester, without whose knowledge and approbation he will do nothing.

30 M^r Ellis of Gonalston Nottingham Shire. Feb: 14. 1699 to M^r Chamberlayne saith. That he had written to the Arch Bishop of York about ^{the Designe of the Society} and desired his sentiments, and that he had received a very favourable answer from him, and doubts not but that the encouragement the Arch-Bishop gave will soon forward the designe in his Neighbourhood — desires directions from this Society.

31 M^r Bragg of Hitchen Harfordshire to M^r Chamberlayne Feb: 15th 1699 expresses his approbation of the designe, and desires to know what Correspondence is expected by the Society from the Members of it and in what manner it is to be carryed on, that he may be the better able to give a direct answer.

32 M^r Tatam ^{of Sutton on the Hill Derbyshire} to M^r Chamberlayne Feb: 15th 1699 promises to use his endeavours to engage the Clergy of his Neighbourhood in Societies and to pursue any farther measures which this Society shall deem proper — advises that each of the Clergy should have the Occasional Letter and the Bedfordshire Account more especially five persons whom he names, who have great influence on the Rest of the Clergy. That without the order and directions of the Arch-Bishop nothing can be done and therefore hopes this Society will procure them.

33 M^r James Harries of Llantrissant Glamorganshire to D^r Evans Feb: 15. 1699 saith. he hath putt up two Schools, and sett up catechetical Lectures in his parish and hopes his example will obtain thro' the whole County.

34

M^r Thomas Ibbott of Swaffham Norfolk to M^r Chamberlayne Feb: 16
1699 Saith, he heartily wishes the design of the Arch Bishops Letter and
the Bedfordshire Account may be promoted in his Neighbourhood —
intimates that the state of Religion in those parts is very lamentable,
and accepts the correspondence with this Society.

35

M^r John Edwards from Llwidiarth Montgomeryshire to D^r Evans Feb:
16. 1699. Saith, That D^r Wynne the Chancell^r approves of the designe —
that the Rurall Dean of Pola had summoned his Clergy by a Circular Letter
— that they had mett and Resolved on particulars conformable to their
Brethren at Wrexham, too tedious here to insert, vide ^{the letter} — that they
intend to hold their meetings at two market Towns alternately — that
in the whole Deanery there is but one free Schoole endowed for poor children
to learn to read &c. — complains of the great Number of the poor, and how
difficult it will be to raise a Fund for their Education — gives a great
character of M^r Vaughan of Llwidiarth a Gentleman with whom he
dwells, obliges his Curate to teach the youth of the parish where he
resides not, and in his other parish has made some advances towards
settling a free School, which will be open after Easter — desires
every Clergyman in his Neighbourhood may have the printed Account
of the Society and the Bedfordshire letter — saith that it is not
difficult to putt in practice the designe of Reformation in those parts
the Bishop of the Diocese being the Generall patron — desires D^r
Evans to write to the Rurall Deans to forward the work.

36

^{of Newcastle on Tyne}
M^r Ellison Feb: 17: 1699 gives directions to M^r Chamberlayne how to
send to him.

37

^{of Bristol}
M^r Bedford to M^r Chamberlayne Feb: 17: 1699. Saith that the meeting
of the Clergy at Bristol had been obstructed by M^r Cary, which he
has hopes of Reviving — that he would communicate our Circular
Letter to the Clergy and send their sentiments — gives a short
Account of what is done to educate the poor at Bristol.

38

D^r Hopkins from Worcester to M^r Chamberlayne Feb: 17: 1699 Saith

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That the Bishop at his Visitation recommended the meetings of the Clergy and that they resolved to begin early at the Spring — that he will endeavour first to gett a meeting of the Rural Deans and some others of the principall Clergy, and with them Consult the Settlement of the meetings in the most convenient places of the County — Desires an Account of the Correspondents in the Neighbouring Countyes of — warwick Gloucester &c. and promises to communicate all materiale occurrences to this Society /

39 M^r: Price Feb: 18th: 1699 to M^r: Chamberlayne, saith that the Clergy in Denbysheire and Flint shire have associated according to the Bedfordshire Modell — that they resolve to rectifie what was amiss in themselves with respect to the Rubricks and Canons, to send for a Considerable Number of Small books — hee desires to see our methods of raising subscriptions and regulating the Schools /

40 M^r: John Scott of Northwood in the Isle of Wight, to M^r: Bromfield Feb: 19: 1699 accepts the correspondence — desires to know the methods this Society has formed, and to have the printed papers, and that a Copy of our Generall letter may be sent to four Clergymen, whose names he mentions, to induce them to assist him, and desires M^r: Bromfield to engage some Gentlemen of the Island in the Designe /

41 M^r: Fenwick of Hallaton Leicestershire to M^r: Chamberlayne Feb: 19 1699 approves the designe in every branch of it, and prays that the whole Kingdom may unanimously concur: saith, that some of the Clergy in his neighbourhood have their monthly meeting, that he had recommended to them certaine Queries, mentioned in his letter in order to promote a generall Reformation of Manners /

42 M^r: Rob^t: Burscough, ^{of Torrey Devonshire} to M^r: Chamberlayne Feb: 20: 1699 accepts the correspondence /

43 M^r: Raymund of Ipswich Suffolk to D^r: Slare Feb: 20: 1699 saith — a Society is lately begun at Ipswich under his direction, and that they have sett up evening prayers which are very laudably frequented

and were propounding the designe of schools.

44 M^r Smith of Kimbolton Huntingdonshire to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 20: 1699 accepts the correspondence.

45 D^r Nichols of Selsey in Sussex to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 20: 1699 accepts the Correspondence.

46 M^r Dobson of Liddesden Hantsire to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 21 1699 accepts the Correspondence.

47 D^r Nichols ^{of Selsey in Sussex} to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 23: 1699. approves the advice of beginning the work by a meeting of the Clergy, and accordingly hath written to the Bishop for his Consent and advice.

48 M^r Welchman ^{of Lapworth Warwickshire} to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 26: 1699 promises his utmost endeavours to promote the designe of this Society, tho' he foresees many difficultyes, sayes he has endeavoured these 10 years to gett a School for the poor of his parish, which does not answere his expectation, the houses being at such distance that the smaller Children cannot come, and the parents cannot spare others from their work. on this head he desires the advice of this Society — He will endeavour to obtaine a meeting of the Clergy, the Bishop having already recomended it — However he fears it will be of little use by reason of the poverty of the Clergy.

49 M^r Scott to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 26: 1699 directs how to convey ought to him.

50 D^r Hopkins ^{of Worcester} to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 26: 1699 complains of the great damage arising to the Church from popish patrons — proposes that some quick and easy way may be provided to convict Recusants so as to render them or their Trustees incapable of presenting; al by making void all grants made

by them of Avouisons since last Christmas, and all others not made
on valuable considerations to be proved in some Court of Records &c
and withall urges it as no hard matter to deuest them of Avouisons

51 ^{of Stretton near Cirencester in Gloucestershire}
M^r Willett to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 26. 1699 saith, he hath
written to the Bishop of Gloucester desiring him to putt him upon
using his endavours to form Societies of the Clergy — promises
to Account for the progresse of the Designe from time to time
together with the discouragements and difficulties it shall
meet withall.

52 ^{of Nantwich Cheshire}
M^r Bradshaw to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 26. 1699 desires to
know the names of the Members of this Society — saith, the
Clergy of the Deanery have mett at his house every month for
these two years last past, but cannot say, that all are brought
to an Exact conformity to the Canons — Complains of D^r
Bray for not continuemg a correspondence with him &c. as
likewise of the want of good justices, without whom little
Reformation of Manners can be expected — that they have
attempted to erect Schools for the poor without successe — says
the Authors must pay the carryage of what peices are sent
till they have more exactly formed themselves.

53 ^{of Marlborough}
A. D^r Ycate to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 27. 1699 saith, he hath
disposed of severall of the Bedfordshire Letters among the Clergy,
but does not find them very forward to follow the example —
that they had been encouraged thereto by the Command and example
of their Diocesan ever since his first appearance among them
— that his Lordshipp had given 300 ^l p ann (100 whereof passeth
thro his hands) for an Augmentation to the poorer Clergy. . .
Exhibitions in either University and Apprenticing poor Children
— hopes to effect something after next Easter visitation —
intreats directions from this Society.

54 ^{in Kent}
M^r Lewis of Acruse to M^r Chamberlayne Feb. 28. 1699 can find
but two Clergymen within ten miles round him, whom he can confide

in as favourers of the designe — that the Clergy exposed it as a reviving of Presbyterian Classes, encouraging Fanaticism contrary to the 25.th of Hen: 8. Cap. 19 a breach of the 12 Canon, an Usurpation on the rights of the Convocation, and an inlet to division and separation — that some reflected on the Arch Bishops Letter as unintelligible with regard to this matter, and are averse to the Gentrys Joyning with them — That at Canterbury there is a Society of young men, that the Clergy have agreed to preach a Monthly Lecture to them gratis, and hopes this may be a meanes by degrees to form a Society of the Clergy, and to gett subscriptions for a School — that this Society of young men have evening prayers in some Church or other every day, where there is a vast concourse of young people — and has hopes of publick catechizing there.

- 55 M^r James Harries from Llantrisant ^{Glamorganshire} to M^r Chamberlayne March 1.st 1699. Signifies his Earnest desires that the designe may be successfull, and promises to doe what in him lyes to forward it — says he will communicate the papers which shall be sent him by this Society, to his Brethren of Monmouth &c. Soe soon as he shall receive them — that he has begun catechetical Lectures in the severall Chappells of his great Parish, and hopes to carry them on, together with the schooling of poor Children.
- 56 M^r Rich: Kendall from Pelyn near Howey in Cornwall to M^r Chamberlayne March 1.st 1699 Signifies his hearty concurrence with the designs of this Society, and expects farther instructions.
- 57 M^r Thomas Ibbot ^{of Swaffam in Norfolk} to M^r Chamberlayne March 4. 1699. Signifies his intentions of communicating the designs of this Society to the Clergy at their Generals the week after Easter and that if application were made to D^r Trimmell the A. Deacon, there would be no doubt of Success.
- 58 M^r John Gilbert from Plymouth Devonshire to M^r Chamberlayne March 4. 1699 Signifies M^r Kendalls acceptance of the Correspondence, promises to contribute what in him lyes towards the Designe, and desires particular instructions from this Society.

59 - M^r Will. Fenwick of Hallaton to M^r Chamberlayne March the 5th 1699 - earnestly recommends to this Society M^r Blackwell, Minister of Brampton in Northamptonshire, who, he says has drawn up Articles to be subscribed by the Clergy at their next meeting so like those sent by M^r Chamberlayne, as if they had been transcribed ^{from} ~~for~~ each other

60 M^r Arnold Bowen of Langom near Pembroke Southwales, to M^r Chamberlayne March the 4th 1699. Saith, he had communicated the 2^d circular letter of this Society to the Clergy at their Monthly Lecture Feb. 29th past in the Towne and County of Haverford West, when the Clergy then present 8 or 9 in number formed themselves into a Society Seven of whom subscribed an obligation in this Letter recited — that some scruple the designe for want of the Mandate of their Diocesan who, he saith, hath rather discouraged Piety &c. by ridiculing their monthly lectures &c. that they have drawne up a Scheme for taking subscriptions for Schools, whereunto most of the Justices subscribed at their Quarter Sessions, and that the Rolls were sent into the severall parishes, and hopes that schools may be erected in the most convenient places of the County, and that S^r John Philip's presence is much wanting to promote it, doubts not of Success, if the next Diocesan patronizes these designs — desires papers and instructions from this Society

61 M^r James Smith of Gttenham in Cambridgeshire to M^r Chamberlayne March 8th 1699 Saith, he sees not how he can any way advance the pious designe proposed to him in M^r Chamberlayne and M^r Comyn's Letters, except by contributing towards the expence of it. which he shall willingly doe — That himself and others had thoughts of associating, but despaired of Success for want of sufficient assistance — That the Education of poor Children will goe but a little way towards a Reformation, since, Deism, Prophaneness and Irreligion, reigne chiefly among those of Estates and Tytles — desires time to advise before he enters into the Society, which he is ready to doe if he finds he can doe any service to Religion — desires also to know who the Members are and what will be expected from him

62 Dr. Hugh Todd, from Carlisle to M^r. Chamberlayne March the 14th 1699 signifies his approbation of the Designe and promises to contribute his best endeavours to promote it. That Deism &c. are not known in those parts among the generality — That there is a great want of Schools for the Education of the poor gratis, and that the poor are very remiss in sending their Children to School where there is opportunity — That he hath distributed diverse Books, and wishes he had others to joyn with him in the expence — That he hath a brother in Jamaica Rector of St. Elizabeths, who went over two years ago, and carryed with him above 60^l. worth of Books, by D^r. Brays directions. Altho he recommends as on that may be serviceable to the designe.

63 M^r. Arch Deacon Booth to M^r. Hodges March the 16. 1699 signifies That in a late Sermon before the Mayor and Aldermen of Durham he had endeavoured to perswade them to put the Laws in Execution &c. and acquainted them with a Society of young Gentlemen and Townsmen who meet together to Swear and drink — That he has sufficiently furnished the Highlands with Books of Piety and Devotion — hath taken account of all the New Converts to Popery within his Jurisdiction and designs to send them Books in order to Recover them, and to perswade the Clergy to use their best endeavours to reconcile the Dissenters — hath much reformed Durham by visiting the publick Houses there on Sundays in the Evening — That the Pastorall Letter takes well with the Gentry and Clergy, and that Considerable numbers are sent for — That he will punctually observe the instructions of the Society — That the Vicar of Newcastle hath lately published an Excellent Sermon entituled The Magistrates obligation to punish vice — That in Lent he orders the youth above 16 to come to him to be instructed in the Communion, and finds very good effects of it, and wishes all Ministers would do the like — Wishes likewise that the Arch Bishop of Canterbury would by Letter command him to form Societies of the Clergy of his Visitation — desires some Accounts of the Societies of the Clergy, the Arch Bishops Provinciaall Letter, with the methods for the Schools &c. as likewise an Account from time to time of the progress of the Societies for Reformation of manners, and that some method may be taken to suppress the Quakers.

the names of the Members that Compose it. - promises to consult with his Diocesan about the meeting of the Clergy - says that hee has distributed D^r Patricks little Tract on the Sacrament to every family in his parish. and desires that some other practical Tracts may be recommended to him for the same purpose &c.

69 M^r Bragg of Hitchin Hertfordshire to M^r Chamberlayne 16th March 1699 writes good success to the Pious undertakings of the Excellent Society, but excuses himself from the Correspondence the circumstances of the Neighbourhood being such as render him incapable of any Service

70 M^r Ellison of Newcastle to M^r Chamberlayne March 23: 1699 writes that M^r Whimfield approves the designe of this Society: hopes that he and others of the Magistrates will promote it when our instructions shall be communicated to them - That some of the Northumberland Clergy and two of the Justices had mett at Morpeth and agreed to forme themselves into a Society for Reformation of manners - that they had seen our papers, and desired to settle a Correspondence with us, and appointed M^r Fenwick Rector of Morpeth to receive our instructions

71 M^r Ellis of Gonalston ^{Nottinghamshire} to M^r Chamberlayne March 30th 1700. writes That 12 of the most noted of the Clergy had mett and resolved to raise a fund for the education of poor Children, and supplying of the poorer Clergy with Books - that all those present, subscribed and agreed to promote the like in their respective neighbourhoods; and that their present success gives them hopes of raising a considerable stock, and that the Subscription is for one year commencing at Lady day 1700: He desires the Methods for the Schools and other papers of this Society

72 M^r Parker of Parkhall Staffordshire to M^r Hodges March 16: 1699 sent enclosed a Copy of a Letter received from a Clergyman of Cheshire to whom

- 64 M^r Welshman ^{of Lappworth Warwickshire} to M^r Chamberlayne March 18: 1699 writes, that the Clergy of his Neighbourhood have resolved to meet at Henty-
Arden the first Thursday in every month, and had deferred their consultations in expectation of papers from this Society, and that an Account of the names of this Society would be very acceptable to himself and brethren.
- 65 M^r Wesley ^{of Epworth in the Isle of Axholme Lincolnshire} to M^r Chamberlayne March 22: 1699 signifies his acceptance of the Correspondence.
- 66 M^r Willett ^{of Stretton near Cirencester} to M^r Chamberlayne March 23: 1699 writes, that the Bishop of Gloucester had given him special direction and encouragement to invite the Clergy of the Deanery wherein he lives, to meet and consult together, and that he had written to each of them, and believes they will all meet on Wednesday in Easter week at Cirencester — He is urgent for the papers of this Society, and promises to give Account of the Debates and resolves of the Clergy at their meeting.
- 67 M^r Allen of Stoke in Staffordshire, to M^r Hodges March 2: 1699 declines the correspondence with this Society, because, of his own incapacity and unfittnesse, his indispensable obligation to attend his own people, who are very poor, ignorant, loose and numerous and consequently require much care and charity — says, he has distributed 400 Monitors and Familiar guides &c. and designs to distribute D^r Williams Catechism, and to pursue M^r Bray's method in his Baptismall Covenant, and to read Catechetical Lectures from May to September, and that to this Service, he has devoted himself, and therefore pleads, that it is impracticable for him to be concerned abroad, but however, is ready to embrace his directions, if he pleases to put him into a better way.
- 68 M^r Kendall ^{Towey near Pelyn} of Cornwall to M^r Chamberlayne 14 March 1699 thanks the Society for their good opinion of him &c. — desires to know

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he had sent one of M^r Hodges Packets. This copy bears date March 9th 1699
and advises that D^r Entwistle, M^r Arch Deacon Vaughan, and at least 17 or
their - 18 Clergymen more at their meeting on the 27 of February well approved of
monthly Lecture M^r Hodges's Letter; agreed on the distribution of the smaller peices, and
bespoke of a bookseller then present 2000 Pastorall^{Letters} besides severall
Christian Monitors and Exhortations to frequent Comunion. The ...
Associating themselves was proposed, but ^{on} debate thereof ^{it was} deferred to a
further meeting, the result whereof he promises to account for in
due time.

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73 M^r Gilbert of Locko near Derby to M^r Chamberlayne March 30th 1700 advised
Lay That he had communicated the Circular Letter sent him from this Society
to diverse Clergymen at the Assizes, who approved the Contents and
shewed a ready Compliance to Associate themselves; provided they
could have comand from their Diocesan: That they desire a Letter
to the same purpose with that sent to him from this Society -
(mutatis mutandis) may be directed to M^r Ashenhurst the
Arch Deacon and his Clergy at the Visitation at Derby on the 10th
of April which course they esteem as most expedient, for their
present union and justification of their proceedings, till the Lord
Bishop of Litchfield and Coventry shall please to give them further
countenance and encouragement. He accepts it as a favour in
being proposed a Member of this Society, and promises his
utmost endeavours to forward the designe, and adds that he is
70 years of Age.

74 M^r Ellison of New castle to M^r Chamberlayne April 6th 1700 -
writes that he had received the Pacquet sent him, and had taken
care to communicate the Contents of it to the Neighbouring Clergy

75 M^r Scott of Northwood to M^r Chamberlayne April 6th 1700 -
writes, That he had received the Pacquet sent him, and so soon as
he has recovered his health, will communicate the Contents thereof
to the Clergy, and send their resolutions.

76 M^r Whimfields of Newcastle, to M^r Chamberlayne April 9th 1700 -
Lay accepts the Correspondence with this Society, and desires his name
may not be mentioned in print /

of Bristol

77 M^r Bedford, to M^r Chamberlayne April 10th 1700 That his endeavour
to promote a Society of the Clergy, have been ineffectuall, and
therefore has joyned himself to a Society for Reformation in
Bristol, consisting of about 50 of the cheif Inhabitants - complain
that the Taverns refuse to open their doors to the Constables on the
Lords day, and at other unseasonable hours, & desires to know -
what measures the Societies for Reformation pursue on the
like occasions. - As a means of Propagating Christian
knowledge, he proposes the promoting the study of the Hebrew
Language, the neglect whereof hath given the Jews occasion
to undermine Christianity, and to buy up all books of Orientall
Learning, that wee might be destitute of weapons to use against
them - Hee proposes likewise the suppressing of prophane Songs
and Ballads and dispersing Hymns with easy Tunes composed to
them. If the Society approve of these proposalls he will
farther signifie wherein he may be capable of serving them /

of Milton in Buckinghamshire

78 M^r Wotton, to M^r Chamberlayne April the 6th 1700 signifies -
his hearty concurrence with the designs of this Society, and -
expects farther instructions /

* 78 M^r George Shergold of Newport Isle of Wight, to M^r Chamberlayne
April 13th 1700. signifies his approbation of this Society, and sayes
he will discourse the Clergy in order to their entering into such
a Society - desires assistance towards placing an Youth
in the University -

Radnorshire

79 M^r Morgan of Pristayne to M^r Chamberlayne April 14th 1700 heartily
approves the Designe of this Society, and promises his best endeavour
to promote it /

(17)

79 ^{of Stretton near Cirencester} M^r Willett, to M^r Chamberlayne April 15: 1700 writes, that 18
Clergymen mett at Cirencester the first Wednesday in April, when
they agreed to meet the first Wednesday in every month, to
endeavour the Religious education of the youth in their severall
Parishes and accordingly to deliver in their respective Sentiments
on that Subject at the next meeting, and to disperse the Small
Tracts, whereof he demands 300 Pastorals, with some of D^r Asheton's
pieces — Complains of the Backwardnesse of the Clergy and others
in giving Informations — Signifies his receipt of the Pacquet and
hopes to be able to give Account of particular conclusions at
the next meeting.

80 M^r Frank of Canfield Bedfordshire to M^r Chamberlayne 13 April
1700. advises that Particular Members of the Society should take
upon them the care of returning particular answers to severall of
the Correspondents lest their zeal raised by the two first Circular
Letters should cool thro' a seeming neglect &c. — Advises that
Application be made to some of the Richest parishes within the
walls, to Support the School in Southwark &c. — Advises also an
Addition of New members, to share the Expences that grow —
upon the Society — particularly recommends S^r Richard Blackmore
— fears that M^r Skelton Arch Deacon of Bedford opposes the
meeting of Clergy — Says that he has prevailed with his Neighbours
to sett up a work house and Schoole in his parish for 40 poor
Children, whom he will Catechise twice a week &c.

81 ^{Radnorshire} M^r Morgan of Presteigne to M^r Chamberlayne 14 April 1700. Says
that the death of his wife has hindered the correspondence, but that he
heartily approves of the Generall designs of the Society, and desires to
be informed how he may be farther serviceable &c.

82 ^{in the North-Riding} M^r Lisle of Gisborough, to M^r Chamberlayne April 9th 1700: That
the lives of the Clergy in Cleveland are so grossly irregular, that it render
their meetings contemptible, and therefore proposes whether some

method to cure this evil be not the likeliest way to discourage and Root out wickedness — That he hopes to obtaine something towards the teaching of Poor Children, but despaires of any fixed settlement for a School — complains of the neglect of the poor in sending their Children to Schoole where a Charitable provision is made for them — He sayth, that he hath sett apart three afternoons in the week after evening prayer, for the private instruction of the Youth in Catechism, besides what the Church enjoyns in Publick, and that this hath brought a storm upon him from his Brethren, notwithstanding he did it with the consent and approbation of his Diocefan: whence he infers, how unfitt he is to influence the Clergy about him, however he resolves to pursue the instructions of the Society, and desires to know whether he may not communicate the Circular Letters, especially the first to the Arch Bishop: signifies that he has dispersed a considerable number of small books, and that the Lady Foulis has furnished him with diverse.

83 M^r Raymund of Ipswich, ^{in Suffolk} to M^r Chamberlayne April 11th 1700: That he expects not to see any formed Societies of Clergy in his Neighbourhood, tho many are intent upon their businesse, and enquireing of each other the best methods of doeing it, and have distributed some quantites of small Books — That the Religious Society in Ipswich have sett up a School to teach poor children to read and learn the Catechism — That they have received abundance of Bedfordshire papers, and D^r Brays projects: and concludes — with directions how any other Papers may be communicated to him

84 M^r Robert Wynne from Carnarvon, to M^r Chamberlayne April the 15th 1700 refers to a Letter he sent to D^r Evans, wherein he communicated the state of Religion, and of the Societies of the Clergy in the Diocese of Bangor — That the Clergy doe highly approve the good designs mentioned in M^r Chamberlaynes Letter, and resolve to pursue them — That the Clergy of each

Deanery meet by themselves, and make it their constant endeavour to stir up each other to a strict and conscientious discharge of the Ministerial Function — That diverse of the Clergy have contributed towards Schools, and others ^{are} disposed to do the Like, and great numbers have been lately taught to read — That the Catechumens are much increased, notwithstanding the miserable neglect of Parents — That the vulgar understand not English Books, and the people are generally so poor that little help can be expected from them — That the Bishop and his Clergy have been at the sole charge of Printing the Welch Books lately translated and are willing to subscribe to more, and will endeavour to obtain the Subscriptions of the Gentry — That the Clergy never meet, but they first send to the Bishop for his advice and instructions, and alsoe at every meeting send him a particular Account of the severall transactions at that meeting, which he imparts to the Arch Bishop — That D^r Jones is leaving Anglesey and coming to settle at Bangor; so that for the future his Letter may serve Carnarvanshire; and upon a Motion made him, he will recommend a Successor to uphold the Correspondence in Anglesey

85 D^r Bernard of Malden in Surry, to M^r Chamberlayne April the 19th 1700. That he finds the Clergy of his Neighbourhood very averse to the Contents of his Letter, objecting, that such meetings are against the Law, and that the Laws in being, are sufficient for the Reformation of manners — That what they do in Relation to Schools they designe to do in their owne parishes, and that they do not think fitt to submit to be directed by men whose names they are not to know. He adds, I'm sorry to tell you, that I find I shall not be able to do your Society any service in this designe.

86 M^r Frank of ^{Cranfield} to M^r Chamberlayne 22 April 1700 recommends two Clergymen as Correspondents with the Society in the Room of M^r Bragg for Hartfordshire viz^t D^r Fisher or D^r Cole Arch-Deacon of S^t Albans, particularly the latter who has a weekly meeting of the Clergy at his house — fears our attempt of

raising a Society in Surry will be ineffectuall by reason —
of the Divisions amongst the Clergy of that Diocess — Says that
M^r James the Patron of the Vicar of Rygate is a great —
friend to the Designe — gives a great Character of M^r Leaman
— Recomends M^r Bulstrode the Solicitor to the Excise to —
be chosen a Member of the Society /

87 M^r Gilpin of Scaleby near Carlisle ^{Cumberland} to M^r Chamberlayne April
18: 1700 highly approves the designe of this Society, and promises
his concurrent endeavours, tho. by reason of the extreame poverty
of that Country, he can expect but little Success. He believes —
voluntary Societies the most proper means to find out ^a provision
for the poor, till the Law shall do it. Writes, that the Arch Deacon
of Carlisle has taken a dislike at the Society for Reformation of
manners wherein himself, with the Mayor of Carlisle, the Chancellor
and some others are engaged: that at his visitation he charged all
those Societies as contrary to the Law both Civil and Ecclesiastic
and of most pernicious consequence to Church and State, and treated
them in very vile terms, declaring, that soe far as his influence
can prevail, he will keep all people from joyning in these Societies.
He desires the direction and Assistance of the Society for
Reformation /

88 M^r John Gilbert of Plymouth, to M^r Chamberlayne April 23: 1700
Writes that he Answered his second Letter — that D^r Bray left
[£]5 to a library when at Plymouth, that the Mayor had subscribed
[£]5 and that farther Subscriptions are in agitation — approves the
proceedings of the Clergy in Bedford and Bucks — saith he will
shew M^r Chamberlaynes Letter to the Bishop, and if he approve
doubts not of Success; if not, he thinks it in vain to attempt Societies
of the Clergy, there being very few inclined to joyn with him in
a matter of that Nature — Complaines of want of Success
in solliciting charityes, having in many years been able to
obtain but 20 towards the Corporation for poor Ministers Widows
and Children, which he ascribes to the ill management of the

(2)
of the Charities already settled in that Town. He desires this Society to write to M^r Burscough Vicar of Totness to join with him.

- 89 M^r James Harris of Llantrissant, ^{Glamorganshire} to M^r Chamberlayne April 26. 1700
That he received the Packett of Books and Papers directed to him from this Society, — promises to disperse them and to give Account of the Success.
- 90 M^r John Cocks ~~near the Colledge~~ ^{of} Gloucester, to M^r Chamberlayne April 27th 1700 accepts the Correspondence, and promises his best endeavours to promote the Designe: saith, that the Bishop of Gloucester hath encouraged the setting up Schools in that City, and believes it may be successfull, and desires to have the Methods and orders of those in London.
- 91 M^r Frank of Cranfield to M^r Chamberlayne 29 April 1700 recommends to the Society M^r Blackwell Rector of Brampton for a Correspondent for Northamptonshire in the Room of M^r King who by his Silence seems to decline the Business — mentions the pernicious consequences of obscene Ballads dispersed about the Country by Pedlars, and thinks it ought not to be beneath the thoughts of the Hon^{ble} Society, nor even of the Legislature to endeavour the suppression of them — Says that M^r Wotton will impart his thoughts upon that matter, if the Society shall please to encourage him &c.
- 92 M^r Price ^{of Wrexham Flintshire} to M^r Chamberlayne April 29th 1700 That he received the Packett — that the Clergy in Denbyshe, Flintshire and — Montgomeryshire are united in Societies — That they had agreed to Rectify some abuses contrary to the Rubricks and Canons, and had put their agreement in execution with such Success that they were encouraged to go on and Rectify others — That they had distributed the Little manuals mentioned in the Bedfordshire Letter (according to which they had modelled their Societies)

which turns to good Account — That they had resolved to be diligent
in catechizing the youth, and designed to spend the Summer Season there
and had unanimously agreed to use Bishop William's Exposition —
That they agreed to endeavour to sett up free schools for the poor
Children, and accordingly were making Notitia's of their parishes
and that they find it most Convenient to sett up Welch schools,
that being the Language which the parents best understand

- 93 M^r. John Gilbert of Plymouth, to M^r. Chamberlayne April 30th
1700 That he had not received the Printed papers nor any Books
— That D^r. Bray came to that port Dec: 24, & sailed Jan: 3. or 4th 1700
— That he will write to M^r. Burscough, with whose assistance
he hopes some good may be done — That he is solliciting contribute
to the designe of this Society — He recommends M^r. James Young
for a Lay Correspondent

- 94 M^r. Fenwick of Hallaton, ^{Leicestershire} to M^r. Chamberlayne, May the 1st 1700. That
he received the Packett the 28th of April, — and gives an high
character of the Account of the Societies for Reformation —
That he began to suspect the Society had mett with some
discouragements which had put a stop to their Designs, because
he had not heard from them for along time, and that he is ready
to contribute towards the Charges of the Books they disperse —
— That 11 or 12 of the Clergy meet at Harborough that they
first goe to Church to prayers and adjourn to a Room in the
Church which is their Library — That they have agreed to, and
signed certaine articles, which he mentions at length — He
desires farther directions from this Society

- 95 M^r. Smith of Cottenham, ^{Cambridgeshire} to M^r. Chamberlayne May 2. 1700. That he
hath neither interest nor acquaintance sufficient to begin a
Society, but would gladly contribute his endeavours could
there be proper persons found out to sett that work on foot

96 M^r Arch Deacon Booth to M^r Hodges May 3. 1700 Sends inclosed the orders of the Justices of the peace at their last Sessions for the County of Durham. Copies whereof he had sent to the Ministers - desiring them to be watchfull to see the officers do their duty in suppressing vice. Writes that he hopes to engage the Justices in a Monthly meeting to receive complaints &c. That on Sunday he begins a Monthly Sacrament at Durham where they used to have it but twice in the year - That a Combination is begun for a sermon every Sunday at a small Towne near Durham where they had prayers and sermon only once in three weeks - That the Prebends will visit all the Churches within their Jurisdiction this Summer and disperse the small books - That he is endeavouring to discover a gang of Fortune Tellers &c.^d. That the Clergy are willing to forme themselves into Societies and want nothing but the Bishops Countenance, which he hopes to obtaine - That he is endeavouring to sett up a Clergy Feast for the Support of poor Ministers widows and their Children, and hopes to succeed in it - That at his visitation he lately recommended to the Clergy certaine particulars here sett downe at large - viz^t. Instructing the youth to sitt them for the Sacrament - Private instructions of the Colliers - Particular care of the poor who live at a distance from the Parish Church - Reading the Proclamation and Acts, and preaching on the severall occasions - care that the School-masters perform their Duty - Endeavours to gain the Dissenters and particularly the late Converts to Popery - He is concerned at the Neglect of application to my Lord Warrington and my Lord Say and Seal, of whose concurrence he is assured and says my Lord Warrington expected it. - Desires the Arch-Bishops Provinciaell Letter, with the Bishop of Londons Letter to his Clergy and withall to know how he may write to M^r Chamberlayne - That he had received a Packett

97 M^r Ellison of Newcastle Northumberland to M^r Chamberlain
 May 4 1700. writes, that he had received the Papers &c. which he
 highly approves — That they have one or more Religious Societies
 among them — That he hath dispersed the Papers among the
 magistrates; and if they will unite, doubts not but the Clergy
 will follow. That he will endeavour to gett occasionall Contributions
 for dispersing good bookes, but despairies of standing Subscriptions
 for schools, and that the Town hath out of its comon Revenue
 provided for teaching many poor, besides what severall
 private Persons contribute, That they have a Catechetical
 Lecture on Thursdays and Sundays — Lending Libraries he
 seems not to encourage, but wishes there were fixed ones in
 small curacies, and is willing to dispose of 400 Abstracts —
 provided 6^s each Book may be applied for at standing Library
 for the Curacy of Gosford; he may have the choice of the Books
 and not be obliged to buy them of Hawes, unless he sell them
 as cheap as another — That he will propose Bristol Model
 to the Magistrates, and desires this Society would recommend
 the same to Alderman Whimfield

98 M^r Cranston of Rygate in Surry to M^r Shute May 5th 1700
 accepts the Correspondence — That he had discoursed with
 three of the Clergy who are willing to begin a Society at
 Rygate and will endeavour to perswade others — and that
 M^r Hare, Sellyard and Bromhall promise their best
 Assistance, and they will sollicite others of the Clergy and
 Laity — He desires instructions for the forming of such
 a meeting

99 M^r Curgewen from Froh near Sherborne Dorset^{shire} to M^r Shute
 May 1st 1700 Accepts the Correspondence — observes
 that for want of a pious application to Catechizing, the Devil

undermine our flocks — that every Sect Retames Discipline, while the established and best Church is left precarious to an astonishment — and that Concubinage is openly maintained particularly in the Diocese of Wilts. — That Correction for practical Atheism is the general cry the Church wanting no Champions for Doctrine and Instruction — He desires to hear of some matter of fact wherein a Triumph has been gained over any great patrons of vice.

500 M^r Burschough to M^r Chamberlaine May 4th 1700 — That he received the Packett and others to pay the charge — That he receives great Satisfaction from the Accounts of the Societies — and promises already concurrence with the Measures of this Society, m^o always consistent with Christian prudence, various m^o different places — refers his further observations to M^r King whom he expects shortly in the Country, is glad to understand M^r Gilbert is engaged, tho' he as well as himself are under some fears, considering their Circumstances.

May 505 M^r Gilbert of Lockg near Darby to M^r Chamberlayne May 8th 1700 — Highly approves the Circular Letter — That the Letter sent by this Society to the Arch Deacon and Clergy at Darby was unsuccessful, and presumes the Society have received the Account of it — That it cannot be hoped — the Laity should be forward in spirituall concerns where the Clergy are apparently remiss, among whom little will be done unless the Bishop command or authorize it — He promises his utmost Assistance.

502 M^r Egerton Harding of Newcastle underline Staffordshire to M^r Shute May 8th 1700 Accepts the Correspondence — signifies that himself with about 16 of the Neighbouring Clergy hold a monthly Lecture there for suppressing Immorality

and Prophanes and that the Magistrates and Gentry have promised their constant attendance, That they have entered into obligatory Articles &c - expects the Directions of this Society touching the Communication of their Circular letter

Lay 503

M^r Gilbert of Plymouth to M^r Chamberlayne May 10th 1700 — That he received the packett. — That M^r Burschough had written to him Excusing himself as to forming Societies, because, he fears they cannot have the Consent of their Diocesan — Gives a great Character of M^r Burschough and signifies a wonderful zeal to these Methods, and promises particularly to sollicit Benefactions.

Lay 504

M^r Whinfield of Newcastle Northumberland to M^r Chamberlayne May 10th 1700 That he received the Circular letter with the Printed paper and himself with M^r Ellison will discourse J^r William Blackett and others in order to promote the Designe of them.

Archdeacon Williams

105

J^r John Williams Arch Deacon from Swansea Glamorganshire to M^r Chamberlayne May 16th 1700 — That he had received two letters and the Packett, and will return his sentiments when he hath read and considered the Contents, that at present he is under great indisposition of Body and unfitt for business.

106

D^r Tylor from Hereford to M^r Chamberlayne May 13th 1700 — Proposes that the Designs of this Society should be laid before the Bishop of Hereford as a proper means to induce him to recommend the same to the Clergy and Gentry in his Diocese which (he believes) would not fail of very good Success,

107

M^r Joshua Horton of Chaderton near Manchester Lancashire May 17. 1700. That he had received and dispersed the particulars sent him according to direction — promises his hearty

endeavours to promote the Designe — asks, whether a distribution of Books among the poor in the Country, or a particular Subscription to be disposed of by the Society in London, be proposed; which he will accordingly represent and promote among his Neighbours so soon as he is particularly informed.

108 M^r Colmer of Babcary near Somerton, ^{Somersetshire} to M^r Chamberlayne —
May 22: 1700 — That he had applied himself to his Dioceſſan who, with promiſſ of his Aſſiſtance encouraged him to goe on — That he had prevailed with ſome of the Clergy to engage therein and will Account for their proceedings when they ſhall meet. — He received the Packett and ſends for 200 Paſtorall Letters.

109 D^r Jones, ^{Dear of Bangor} May 23: 1700 That the Clergy of the Dioceſſ of Bangor are aſſociated by the Biſhops Direction, who preſcribes them their methods and meaſures of Acting — That it will not be poſſible to do this Society any Service with reſpect to the ſecond Branch of their deſigne by reaſon of the poverty of that Country — That Ignorance and ill practice are the Diſeaſes of thoſe parts, and therefore at their meetings they conſider of proper means to remove both; taking the Arch Biſhops Letter into particular and minute conſideration; Paragraph by Paragraph, and ſtudyng the properſt way to put the Kings proclamation and Acts of Parliament in Execution, and that they have ſett up ſeverall ſchools for poor Children in thoſe parts. — That his ſucceſſour at Beaumoris M^r Kenrick Eyton, is not yett arrivd, and therefore knows not whether he will be diſpoſed to correſpond with the Society. — He knows not whom to recomend for Cardiganſhire and as for Carnarvan, ſince M^r Wynnne maintains correſpondence for that County, it will be ſufficient for the future for him to receive his notices from M^r Wynnne.

555

M^r Hardm^g of Newcastle Underline, to M^r Chamberlayne May the 29th 1700 Promises to promote the Designs of this Society and hopes in a short time to return a Comfortable Account of his endeavours — That he particularly Knowes M^r Parker and Allen, both persons of extraordinary zeal and goodness.

Oxfordshire

552

B^r Knight of Broughton, June 1st 1700 — That he has endeavoured to promote the pious Aimes of this Society, that notwithstanding the Clergy are unexceptionable as to their lives and Labours, yett having generally Churches with Chappells annexed and those illaudably endowed, are uncable of Catechetical Exercise without such assistance, as they want meanes to provide, and if they should Catechize only, the people would all Run to the Conventicles (from which scarce a Parish is free — That he maintains one Reading School in each of the two Parishes belonging to his Church. He desires 4 or 5 dozen of any of the little books the Society recomends, having furnished his parish already with the Christian Monitor and familiar Guide, at my Lord Guilford's expence.

556

M^r Frank of Cranfield in Bedfordshire to M^r Chamberlayne 27th May 1700. Says that the Endeavours of the Inferiour Clergy towards a Reformation depend very much on the Encouragement of their Diocessan — Advises therefore that application be made to the Bishops, and particularly to the Bishops of Litchfield and Hereford. That the Ministers of Luton, and of Dunstable were beginning Religious Societies. That he had opened a school in his Parish for 40 poor Children to Learn Bonelace and to read and their Catechism. That the great Difficulty of putting the

Laws in Execution arises chiefly from the troubles and Charges of Convicting Ciminalls &c.

- 113 M^r Kendall of Telyn near Fowey in Cornwall to M^r Chamberlayne June 3^d 1700. That he had communicated the designs of this Society to the Bishop of that Diocese and found him utterly averse thereto. That as to the designe of dispersing Small Books he will promote it as farr as he can, and desires 500 Pastoralls and a Dozen of D^r Brayes Books for an Essay, which he desires M^r King would be pleased to direct them, to M^r Francis Oliver at Exeter, whom he will order to pay for them.
- 114 M^r Willett of Stretton in Gloucestershire to M^r Chamberlayne - June 10th 1700. That he received the Books sent him and desires a farther supply viz^t 900 of diverse sorts mentioned in the Postscript of his Letter. That diverse have agreed to disperse them, which is all they can be unanimous in. That Erecting Schools is impracticable in Villages, but he hopes to doe something in Cirencester, and as to the Clergy he finds not the warmth he expected - That 7 only mett the last 5th Wednesday when they subscribed for practicall peices to be distributed and that he hopes others will come in.
- 115 M^r Frank of Cranfield &c. to M^r Chamberlayne June 10th 1700. Recomends D^r Jephcott Minister of Evesham and Prebend of Worcester in the room of D^r Hopkins deceased for a Correspondent in Worcestershire - Advises that Application be made to M^r King of Northampton he being nearly related to the Lord Keeper - Says that he has acquainted the Bishop of Lincoln with the Designs of this Society and was greatly satisfied therewith &c. - Says that Francis Bugg attended his

Lordship thro' out his visitation and was encouraged by the Clergy of that Diocese — Advises the Printing and dispersing the West Doorham Conference and that the Author M^r. Merriton will consent to it &c.

Denbighshire

- 116 D^r Rob^t Wynne of Grefford to M^r. Chamberlayne June 5th 1700 — That himself and M^r. Price are so near neighbours, that what shall be communicated to either of them from this Society will be sufficient for both — Approves the designe of forming the Clergy and other good men into Societies as most Excellent — That the Society formed at Wrexham has hitherto gone on with that Success that they hope their meetings will answer the good purposes for which they were intended, And that this Society may expect from time to time, to be informed of their proceedings especially when any difficulty occurs. That they have distributed a considerable number of books, and are consulting the Education of poor children a matter of much difficulty in those parts, no Welsh Schools being already settled — which language must be taught them, and Primers are ready to be printed for that purpose — He directs to send by Wrexham bagg.

- Lay 117 M^r. Lloyd and M^r. Jn^o Vaughan from Alty Cadno Carmarthenshire to M^r. Hodges June 5th 1700 Cheerfully accept the Correspondence and desire directions from this Society, M^r. Vaughan sends for 800 Welsh Monitors and Guides and 200 English.

- 118 M^r. Tatam of Sutton on the Hill Derbyshire to M^r. Chamberlayne June 12th 1700 That the Clergy and Gentry about Derby were disposed to associate, that M^r. Wilson Rector of Morley had writ to the Bishop for his concurrence and directions, and that April the 5th he received answer from his Lordship, that he was not very well satisfied with their designs, and that he would

reserve his thoughts of the matter to be delivered to his Clergy
 at his Primary visitation, which (M^r Tatam adds) will not be as it
 is generally thought ~~till 1704~~. That this Answer of the Bishop is ~
 kept as a Secret, for fear of obstructing the good effects hoped ~
 for from a Letter from this Society, directed to the Arch Deacon.
 That April 10th he communicated the intended association to the
 Arch Deacon at his visitation who immediately expressed his ~
 approbation of it and promised to recomend it to the Clergy: he
 had not time to doe it in the Church, few dined with him and to
 those, he did recomend it, as likewise a Petition to the Justices ~
 then present in Sessions, to putt the Law in Execution against ~
 Propheaneys, &c: and to be signed by the Clergy, which he offered
 first to signe himself but being obliged suddenly to withdraw ~
 to take Account of the Church wardens the whole was dropt ~
 only the Arch Deacon at the Request of some of the ~
 Clergy promised within a month or six weekes to write his ~
 mind fully to the Clergy with relation to what he had in short ~
 proposed to them, about associating themselves which he hath ~
 not yett done. M^r Tatam signifies that he intends to invite the ~
 Clergy to his house in order to posses them with designe, and ~
 intreats this Society to furnish him with any materials they
 shall think fitt to plead this Cause, and particularly with their
 Answers to the objections following viz^t: 1 That the Persons ~
 engaged in it are no true friends to the Church, and that Fanaticism
 is at the bottom of it; what occasions this, ^{is} that the Dissenters ~
 are associated at Serby to suppress Propheaneys &c: tho a Leading
 person among the Dissenters did first sollicite the Churchmen
 to undertake it, and said the Dissenters would do it if the ~
 Churchmen refused it - 2 That should the Clergy now associate
 it would be a Reflection on them as if they had hitherto neglected
 their Duties - 3 That the Bedford and Buckingham shire Clergy,
 nothing to doe to prescribe to the Rest of their Brethren, and that

Surely the friends of the Church would not subscribe to Scottish methods, having been objected that most of the Clergy concerned in Bedford and Buckingham shire were Scotchmen and loved the Kirk.

119 M^r. Ibbott of Swaffham in Norfolk to M^r. Chamberlayne June 10th 1700 gives a great character of M^r. Woodhouse, and an Account of his cheerfulness of engaging in the Designe, and desires that two books sent to him may be also sent to M^r. Woodhouse.

120 M^r. Bedford of Bristol to M^r. Chamberlayne June 17. 1700 - That he had received the Packett: had communicated our designe to the Society for Reformation, who being in their Infancy refused to joyn as yett for fear of Clogging themselves too hard at first, and has communicated our last letter to others, and will do it to the Bishop — He concludes his Letter with an Account of what is done by the Guardians of the Poor of Bristol.

Lay 121 Col^l. Woodhouse of Exeterham Norfolk to M^r. Chamberlayne June 20th 1700 accepts the Correspondence and desires the instructions and prayers of this Society.

122 M^r. Gilbert of Plymouth Dec^r. to M^r. Chamberlayne June 20th 1700 — That when he consulted the Bishop with relation to this Society he found ^{him} averse to it, but that the main obstacle is that the Members of the Society conceal their Names, they thinking it unreasonable to engage with men in ^{the} Courts. That he himself will pursue the directions sent him. That M^r. Chamberlayne ought to have directed to M^r. James Young and not to John Young Esq^r. and the way to engage him is by M^r. Burschough.

- 123 M^r Harries of Llantrissant Glamorgan Shire to M^r Chamberlayne
June 21st 1700 That the Designs of this Society was misrepresented
by some Officers of the Consistory Court of Landaffe, as a
Contrivance to render a Convocation uselesse, and to weaken
the Jurisdiction of the Episcopall office, and particularly
that of their Courts — That he hopes to sett up a meeting of
the Clergy every fortnight, that he will send to the Bishop ..
for his leave. and think of a fitt person for a Lay Correspondent
and that he will communicate what papers the Society will
send him ?
- 124 M^r Adamson of Burton in Lincolnshire to M^r Chamberlayne
June 22th 1700 accepts the Correspondence and thanks the Society
for the Honour done him, and as for the proceedings of the Society
of the Clergy, refers the Society to the Account thereof sent to
J^r ^{Edmond} ~~William~~ Turnor
- 125 M^r King of Exeter to M^r Chamberlayne June 30th 1700. That
Canon Gilbert and Burschough are mightily satisfied with the
+ designs of this Society, and will ~~assist~~ by such wayes as may
be agreeable to their Diocesan whom they find an utter
Enemy to all Societies, and that he himself shall be forced to
pursue the same methods
- 126 M^r Lewis of Acreyse in Kent to M^r Chamberlayne July 4th 1700
— Received the third Letter and Sermons, and would have
communicated them to the Arch Deacon. but his absence from
home prevented it — That there is yett noe likely hood of
having a Society of the Clergy — That two only of the Citty -
Clergy are concerned in Preaching the Lectures to the Religious

Societies — That two of the Country Clergy and one Prebend of Canterbury are pleased with our Designs, but are afraid of Miscarrying many attempts of that kind, for want of assistance, and for the Gentry, he knows not how to recommend any. That he likes the Bedfordshire method

127 ^{of Wrexham in Flintshire} M^r Price to M^r Chamberlayne June the 20th 1700 recommends to this Society for their instructions, a Curate of his, designed for Pennsylvania, signifies his receipt of the third Circular Letter and promises to answer it when he has communicated it to his Brethren

128 ^{of Rygate in Surrey} M^r Cranston to M^r Chamberlayne July 1st 1700. that he has received the three Circular Letters, and imparted them to the Neighbouring Clergy, who highly approve the Designe — That M^r Hares Ilnefs has put a great stop to their present endeavours — That as soon as he can form a Society he will wait on the Bishop with our Letters and papers — That the Papers and Bookes mentioned in the second and third Letters to be sent are not yett come to his hands — That the way to send to him is either by the Coach on Wednesdays and Saturdays at the Catherine Wheel in Southwark, or by John Fish or Henry Worswaggoners on Mondays and Fridays at the Greyhound in Southwark: He recommends for Lay Correspondents John Sellyard Esq^r at his house near Betchingly, or M^r Bromhall near Rygate or either of them, and adds that M^r Sellyard is now put into a Commission of the Peace — That he has dispersed near 200 Pastoralls Letters and is ready to disperse any others which the Society shall recommend — That

he intends to sett up a monthly Sacrament and to catechize in the Church the Saturday even before

129 ^{of Swaffham in Norfolk} M^r Ibbot to M^r Chamberlayne July 1st 1700. That he had communicated the designs of the Society to the Bishop of Norwich who highly approved of them, and recommended some worthy Gentlemen to us, & gave him some Rules for a Religious Society — recommends his Sonn to be Tutor to some worthy young Gentlemen /

130 ^{of Durham} S^r George Wheeler to M^r Chamberlayne July 2nd 1700. complains of the Pastorall Letter for want of an imprimatur. and saith the Bishop of Durham took notice that D^r Brays Apostolick Charity was defective in that respect, and desires the Society to consider this matter — That he has written to the Chancellor of York to know the Arch Bishops Sentiments, and used other precautions before he thinks it proper to communicate the designs of this Society to the Bishop of Durham — He desires that 1 or 2 of my Lord of Canterburys Letters may be sent by the first post, without which he cannot stir one step, and wonders that it is omitted in the Book of the Account of Societies — and if out of print comends the reprinting it at the Charge of the Society and transmitting it to all the Correspondents

131 ^{of Gonalston in Nottinghamshire} M^r Ellis to M^r Chamberlayne July 3rd 1700 That they have raised 120 towards the Education of Poor Children, and purchasing Books for the Poor, and believes this to be but part of a much greater sume they may depend on. — That some Children are already put to Schoole and some hundred of Books ordered to be bought — That he had in April last communicated their designs to the Arch Bishop who gave them

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all the encouragement they could desire, and declared his
thoughts of the usefullnesse thereof to some Gentlemen then
present and thanked them for the Countenance and Assistance
they had already given us — vide ^{the Letter} ~~de his place~~ — That the
Arch Deacon at his visitation subscribed towards the Common-
stock, and recommended it to the Clergy of the severall Deaneries
— He desires the Society to write to S^r Francis Molineux
Barronett at Feverall near Mansfield Nott: or to inclose a
Letter that he may waite on him with it — to send to him by
Nottingham Bagg

132 M^r Blackwell of Brampton Northamptonshire by the Harborough
Bagg, to M^r Chamberlayne July 8th 1700. That he received the
Letters of the 20th and 27th past — and that he had not yett received
the Bookes and Papers — Thanks the Society for the Honour
they ^{have} done him, and promises to use his best endeavours to promote
their designs, — That a Society is forming in his Neighbourhood
and that they had agreed to make application to the Bishop of
Peterborough for his approbation — Carrier Thomas Banks
of great Bowden nigh Harborough, Ram in Smithfield — Also
desires that the Bookes lately sent ... may be Enquired after

133 M^r Gilbert of Plymouth to M^r Chamberlayne July 9th 1700. That
he had received 10 of D^r Brays Sermons which he promises to
Distribute

134 M^r Willett ^{of Stretton near Cirencester} July 10th 1700 That some more of the Clergy had joynd
them — That he had received the Books sent — That he will lett
Col Colchester know the obligations the Society hath laid on
him

135 M^r Wesley ^{of Epworth in the Ile of Axholm} to M^r Justice Hoek July 10th 1700 That he acquainted

the Bishop of Lincoln with the Methods of this Society, and the union of the Clergy in the severall parts of the Kingdom ... under their Rurall Deans, with which he appeared very well pleased, and said he intended to Restore Rurall Deans in his own Diocess, in order to unite the Clergy under them, and that he would not discourage those who at present had formed themselves into Societys — He desires the short Account of Societies, and what further Progresse this Society hath made — That there appears a good disposition among severall of the Clergy to Associate. Advises that M^r Smith the vicar of Gainsborough should be writt to, on that Subject, and that S^r Welloughby Hickman of Gainsborough might be a very usefull Lay Correspondent and might be engaged by M^r Smyth — that he has not yett received D^r Brays Sermons

of Totness

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+ this was a mistake for Mr King

M^r Burschough to M^r Chamberlayne July 13th 1700. Gives a Good Character of M^r Knight a Justice of peace in his Neighbourhood. — Proposes ^{that} D^r Pocock's Arabick Translation of Grotious de veritate be printed and dispersed in Turkey — That a Letter be sent to the Mayor of Corporations, to quicken them to the work of Reformation — That he had Received D^r Brays Sermons

Isle of Wight

137

M^r Scott of Northwood July 15th 1700 to M^r Chamberlayne That he had received the 3^d Letter and D^r Brays Sermons and Communicated them — He recommends to the Society Col^l Dudley Lieutenant Generall, John Leigh and Thomas Bowerman Esq^r Justices of the Peace and William Stephens of Burton Esq^r — As to the Uniting into Societies the Clergy think it expedient that the other parts of the Diocess should first address to the Bishop, the Isle of ^{Wight} ~~Wight~~ being the Least Deanery in the whole diocess

- 138 M^r Ellison of Newcastle, Northumberland to M^r Chamberlayne
 July 19th 1700. that he received 200 of the abstracts very ill
 bound, and that he finds greater difficulty in disposing
 of them then he expected — promises in 5 or 6 weeks to
 account for them — That the Project of teaching
 Children after they have done work is impracticable
 there — promises to dispose of D^r Brays Sermons —
 desires the Society to write a Letter to S^r William
 Blackett, one of the Burgesses ^{to Parliament} &c.
- 139 D^r Tephcat of Evesham in Worcestershire to M^r Chamberlayne
 July 20th 1700 accepts the Correspondence with this
 Society.
- 140 M^r Thomas Thomas of Carmarthen July 22th 1700 to M^r
 Chamberlayne that the Magistrates of that County
 had, pursuant to an Instrument signed in Quarter
 Sessions, put the Laws in Execution against Prophanes &c
 and wrought a visible reformation in the Country. —
 They obliged likewise the officers and some of the
 Chief inhabitants in every parish to give informations
 and gott them to signe an Instrument for that purpose —
 — That the Clergy in that County are associated, have
 distributed many good Books, and revived Catechising. —
 Suggests that a Method of setting up a small School in
 every parish should be proposed to the Gentry.
- 141 Arch Deacon Booth of Durham to M^r Chamberlayne July
 22th 1700. That he received the 3^d Letter. That he hath
 noe encouragement to Lay before his Diocessan the paper
 of the Society and proposes the Bishop of Chester as the
 proper man to engage him — That in his visitation he
 had dispersed neer 3000 of the Smaller Books at his own

Charge and could not obtaine one farthing of his Diocesan towards it — That he communicated the order of Sessions to a Justice of peace for Cheshire, who resolves to recommend it to the Bench at the next sessions for that County — That he received D^r Brags Sermons, and desires instructions for the Disposall of them?

142 M^r Nichols of Helsey in Suffex. to M^r Chamberlayne July 25th 1700 That in pursuance to D^r Brags desires, he had made some advance towards composing an exposition of the Catechism which might be printed or given away at ~~an~~ cheap rate and desires to know whether the designe be acceptable to the rest of the Society — That meetings of the Clergy are formed in severall parts of the Diocesse, the Bishop having recommended them in his visitation, The third circular Letter never came to his hands

143 D^r Knight of Braughton in Oxfordshire to M^r Chamberlayne August 3rd 1700 Signifies the Postscript under M^r Chamberlaynes owne hand, was not so particular for his information as he could wish, and therefore intreats him to supply it: — complains exceedingly of the Difficulties they meet with in those parts in advancing the Designs of the Society; — however he is resolved to use all methods, and particularly such as the Society shall advice?

144 Col^d Dudley from Cowes Isle of Wight to M^r Chamberlayne August 3rd 1700: That he highly approves the Designe and Methods of this Society; that himself with some of the Clergy, with whom he hath Consulted are joyntly of opinion it would be adviseable ^{that} some of the Members of this Society

Should obtain a Circular Letter from the Bishop of Winchester to encourage the matters and hopes there are some of the Gents of the Country who will heartily embrace the Overture. - He promises his utmost Assistance.

145 D^r Jephcot of Evesham Worcester shire to M^r Chamberlayne Aug^t 6. 1700: promises his utmost Endeavours to pursue the Designes of this Society. - Says that while D^r Hopkins was living the Arch Deacon and Rural Deans had a meeting. and agreed, to distribute their meetings into severall parts of the County, but since his death - little is done, nor can be till Harvest is over - That under the influence and patronage of the Arch Bishop, they hope to doe somewhat for their own, and the publick good. Desires the Modell of Buck & the Societys method, and a List of the Society &c.

Lay 146 M^r Lloyd of Alty Cadno Carmarthen shire Southwales - That the Cargy and members of his Society are much encouraged by their Correspondence with this Society: - Himself gratefully accepts the Correspondence - and promises his best Assistance - That some of the prime Clergy are cautious about my associating - he supposes they delay it till the Bishop is appointed. - that some cavill at the word Association, and that - has retarded severall Gentlemen - That they are so dispersed that they have few meetings unless - - - - accidentally and some promise to doe their Duty without entering into any Society, and those that have entered - them selves do meet once a month or 6 weeks - That the

proceedings at the quarter Sessions hath had avisible effect on the Gentry and vulgar People, and Clergy that have associated who spare no paines. — That the Resigning of Schools is most likely to take effect, when the manners of the people are reformed which they are now endeavouring — That he will from time to time give Account to this Society of their Success and difficulties

North Riding

- 147 M^r Lisle of Gisborough to M^r Chamberlayne Aug^t 10th 1700 — That he had waited on the Arch Bishop of York, but had no opportunity to communicate to him the papers of this Society and that ever since he hath languished under a sharp distemper — Promises very shortly to address to S^r William Hustler — Proposes M^r John Gibson of Wellburn nigh Kirby-moore side, a Magistrate and intimate ^{friend} of S^r William Hustler as a proper person to be applyed to, who would cheerfully embrace the invitation

- 148 M^r Gilbert of Plymouth to M^r Chamberlayne Aug^t 10th 1700 writes about books to be sent him by M^r Hawes; and presents his service to D^r Bray, if the publick account of his return be true.

in Kent

- 149 M^r Deffray Old Rumney Aug^t 15th 1700 to M^r Chamberlayne accepts the Correspondence, and promises his utmost endeavours to promote their designs

- 150 M^r Bedford of Bristol to M^r Chamberlayne Aug^t 19th 1700 — refers to M^r Shute for an Account of what is done at Bristol — That his proposall of Erecting Schools hath mett with great opposition from the Society of Reformation. — That his brother Read, will be hearty in his Correspondence

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but knows not what to say concerning M^r. Cary

151 M^r. Bowen of Langom Pembrokeshire to M^r. Chamberlayne Aug^t
13th 1700 — That they have formed themselves into a Society
of Some Clergy, with many of the Principle and leading Gentry
of the Country: Chosen their Treasurer, and lodged the small
stock of money in his hands, — That S^r. John Philips his Interest
and Example has given great influence in order to effect it.

152 M^r. Ellison of Newcastle 20 Aug^t 1700 — That he has disposed of
D^r. Bray's abstracts which were sent him and wants a
hundred more, and that the Schoolmaster of the free School
has promised to have it read in his Schools. He refers to M^r.
Hooks report of the discourse he had with S^r. William Blackett
who he believes may prove a Benefactor to the Society.

153 D^r. Nichols of ^{in Sussex} Celsey to M^r. Chamberlayne Aug^t 27. 1700: that the Bishop
of Chicester joyns heartily in the designe of the meeting of
the Clergy and the setting up of schools. He believes a Schoole
will shortly be sett up at Chichester and one in his parish. —
That as to the meeting of the Clergy, things doe not goe
on so smoothly, as he would have them, but dispaies
not of giving a good account of that matter in time. —
Proposes M^r. Robert Haslen Mayor of Chicester as a
proper Lay Correspondent and desires he may be
written to, the next week.

154 D^r. Tod of Penrith, ^{near Carlisle} in Cumberland to M^r. Chamberlayne
Aug^t 22. 1700 That he finds good success of ^{his} endeavours
by the Assistance and Examples of the Magistrates: —
— Proposes that if the Society have any fund for the
maintenance of Schoolmasters they would allow some —

Small share to these parts - Complains of the great variety of Primers among the Children of private Schools, and - proposes that a stop may be put to it, at the Print^{ing} house: - Proposes catechising as the best Method for the improvem^t of Christian Religion, and desires the Society to send him some of those Catechisms which he perceives they distribute. Says that the Northern parts generally are more orderly and conformable, and as well instructed in Religion as any parts of the Kingdom.

155 M^r Tayler of Wigan (Lancashire) Aug^t 27. 1700 to M^r Chamberlain accepts the Correspondence.

156 M^r Blackwell of Brampton Northamptonshire to M^r Chamberlayne Sept. 2. 1700: That the Bishop of Peterborough having been addressed by some of his Clergy, has readily given them leave to meet durante bene placito, and approved the Articles offered to him: He promises to contribute yearly towards the designe of this Society.

157 M^r Griffith of White Waltham in Berkshire to M^r Chamberlain Sept. 3. 1700. That the Bishop very much approved of the designe of this Society, and said when he came to London he would enter himself and contribute towards it, and required him in his name to recommend it to his Brethren - desires the Society would write to some other Clergy man to assist him in the work, and to desire my Lord of Sarum to do it, and hopes thereby and with the assistance of M^r Richards (who has promised his concurrence) to effect some thing to purpose: - He

Desires the severall papers of the Society /

158

Arch Deacon Booth of Easington, Durham, to M^r Chamberlayne Sept^r 6. 1700 Heartily approves D^r Brays reasons of his return as satisfactory, and that he may more effectually serve that Designe, desires the Society to draw up a Letter, which he may send to his Clergy, to procure their Charity, and that of the Gentry, and some more of D^r Brays Sermons — That he had taken particular care to see the School-masters performe their duty, and discovered severall unqualified persons that pretended to teach schools, and desires the Gentlemen of the Law, would direct him to proceed ag^t them, as a Civill Magistrate, as also how^{ly} may proceed upon the Statute of 20 per Month against such Profaners of the Lords day as the 12 per Sunday, will not reform: — He proposes whether it would not be a proper method to collect out of the Quakers own Bookes their dangerous Principles both to Church and State, and likewise their Blasphemous expressions against the Holy Trinity our Blessed Saviour, and the Holy Ghost and would have this made the foundation of an Address to be presented to the parliament from all the Countyes of England /

159

M^r Taylor of Lorgan Lancashire to M^r Chamberlayne Sept^r 6. 1700: That about two years since a Monthly Lecture was set up by the approbation of the Bishop under his hand and Seal, to suppress prophanesse and Imorality, and that there were seldom present lesse then 20 Clergymen and some times 30. That they have an annuall meeting of the whole Arch Deaconry

on the first Tuesday in June, and make a Collection for the
Widdows, Children &c. of the deceased brethren which he
apprehends may at present interfere with the designs
of forming Schools — Proposes to the Society to send the
Address to those of the Roman Communion &c. to the chief
Papish Families in England.

160 M^r. Browne and M^r. Leith of Bedford to M^r. Chamberlayne
Sept^r. 7. 1700. Accepts the Correspondence.

161 D^r. Wilson Bishop of Man to M^r. Chamberlayne Aug^t. 20. 1700
writes, that he has established a Monthly Lecture, where
all the Clergy of his Diocese meet, and preach in their Turns.
— And that he will give Account of the Difficulties he
meets with, the Spirituall wants they Labour under, and
the helps he has already received for promoting Christian
Knowledge, as soon as he has received the necessary —
directions promised him by this Society — That he —
cheerfully concurs with our proposalls, and promises
to pray for us, to imitate our good designs, as farr as the
Condition and necessities of his place will allow; and
to contribute by his purse, labour, and interest according
to his Circumstances.

162 M^r. Welchman of ^{Lepworth in Warwickshire} ~~Lepworth~~ to M^r. Chamberlayne Sept^r. 11. 1700
recomends the Lord Digby for a Correspondent for Warwickshire.
and believes a Letter to M^r. Colmore of Warwick might put a life ⁱⁿ to
a Design of Erecting a Society for Reformation at Warwick lately
endeavoured, but dropt again — He desires to be recommended
to a Book Seller who would undertake the Impression of two —
Sermons lately preached at Bedfordshire Assizes, or to know the

Charges of the Impression, he hath received D^r Brays Letter but not the Papers

163 J^r George Tohooler ^{from Durham} to M^r Chamberlayne Sept^r 14 That he laid before the Bishop the Printed Account and Papers, but has not yett thought it meet, to press the matter of the Societys affairs to him adding, however I hope the effects of our desires will proceed well nigh to accomplish what in Charity is desired if not in the methods others take. That both the Arch Deacons are well inclined espetially Durham; and that a Letter to the Arch Deacon of Northumberland, would be well received, D^r John Morton by name: That great Charities are done by the Prebendaries, and believes Charitabb Schools will be propagated. many worthy things are done in Northumberland in a sociable manner by the Clergy, and in Newcastle by the Magistrates and Clergy and others

164 M^r Gilbert of Plymouth to M^r Chamberlayne 14 Sept^r ^{Renews printed} his desires of a Letter and the Christians daily devotion for M^r Hawes. He gives hopes of success to his Endeavours to promote the designs of the Society.

165 M^r Chandler and Baker of ^{Lichfield} Leich Sept^r 16 1700 accept the Correspondence and promise their utmost endeavours &c That they are solliciteing Schools for poor Children in that Citty, and are in good hopes to obtain them — That they know not how they can be instrumentall to the propagation of Religion in the Plantations &c

166 M^r Frank ^{of Cranford in Bedfordshire} to M^r Chamberlayne 23 Sept^r 1700 advises the Society to Consider how to put in Execution the proposalls of Arch Deacon Booth in his Letter N^o 158 in order to do it suggests the form of a

4

Postscript to be added to the next Letter to the Correspondents.
wishes it may be sent under different hands and seals for -
fear of falling into the Quakers hands - Advises farther that
D^r Willis's Book be sent to other the Correspondents where -
Papists are abound, and that an Account of their Numbers be
sent to the Society by the respective Correspondents, and
that the Papers relating to the Society be sent to Bedford
- Advises that Particular and familiar Answers be -
thought on for Different Correspondents.

167 M^r Gilbert of Plymouth to M^r Chamberlayne Sept^r 23: 1700 writes
that M^r Young Declines the Correspondence - That he had -
received a bundle of Broad Sheets from an unknow hand, &
believes it will do much good - That the last week he -
Baptised a Gentlewoman a Convert from Quakerism.

168 M^r King from Exeter to M^r Chamberlayne Sept^r 27: 1700. That
he will shortly order his Arrears to be paid - desires -
severall papers mentioned in his Letter, and a Coppel of the
Journall from Aug^r the 5th.

169 D^r Entwistle from Chester to M^r Chamberlayne Sept^r 28: 1700.
Accepts the Correspondence, and desires a List of the
Members of the Society.

170 M^r Smith from Kimbolton Huntingdonshire to M^r Chamberlayne
Sept^r 28 That he received the Packets, and that D^r Brays
Reasons are very satisfactory - That the Clergy of his
Neighbourhood continue to meet &c. Proposes M^r Maplet of
Huntingdon as the fittest person to promote the design,
and him to be engaged by D^r Maplet of. He recommends
D^r Hutchinson of St. Edmunds Bury as well affected, and

adds that he hath been instrumentall to perswade Some of the Clergy to meet at Chipping Ongar.

- 171 M^r Defray from New Romney in Kent to M^r Chamberlayne
Sept^r 29: 1700 intimates his Readyness to give a large Acc^t.
of the begining and Prog^{ss} of a Religious Society of
Young men, he has been instrumentall to Raise in those
parts — desires the papers of the Society, and directs how
they may be conveyed.
- 172 M^r Frank of Cranfield in Bedfordshire to M^r Chamberlayne
Sept^r 30th 1700 Advises to Cultivate the Correspondence of
M^r Willett. Says that M^r Smith of Kimbolton will endeavour
to engage his father in Law D^r Knighton the Sub-Dean of
Lincoln, That M^r Kirkwood will attempt to bring M^r.
Broome of Arlesey into the Correspondence — advises to
engage the Lord Galway and M^r Dykvelt into the
project of M^r De Beringhen — earnestly recommends
again the Securing the Arch-Deacons into the Interest
of the Society — asks after Arch-Deacon Yeate — Says
that there are objections made against the Broad Sheets
of M^r Keith, as being sometimes too obscure &c.
- 173 M^r Ellison of Newcastle to M^r Chamberlayne Sept^r 20th
1700 Sends a Bill for Tenn pounds for 200 of D^r Brays
Abstracts. Intimates that it had been better if the
Pastorall Letter had been at first printed in the same
volume with the Dayly Devotion, That S^r William
Blackett had received both the Letters from the
Society, and supposes he has given an Answer —
That he seems unwilling to engage till he knows —

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the persons and their Lawes, but in the Maine he may be
usefull to the Society, tho' not a Member, by pursuing the
Same Charitable designs.

174 M^r Robert Wynne from Carnarvon to M^r Chamberlayne Oct.
3: 1700: That he had received the Letters and Papers, and
D^r Brays Letter — That the Bishop promises to lay before
his Clergy in his Visitation, the Charitable and pious designs
of the Society, and the necessity of Benefactions towards
promoteing the same. — That he will return a just Acc^t
of transactions, soe far as he shall attend his Lordships:
— complains of the poverty of the Clergy in those parts, —
— Has sent five pounds as his benefaction — That he
will desire my Lord of Banger to recommend lay persons —
to uphold the Correspondence — Advises that Letters be
written to the Reverend M^r John Williams Rector of
Llanbedrock in Gwynn in Carnarvonshire, as what would
be great ease to the Deane and himself.

175 M^r Tomlison of Newcastle in Northumberland to M^r Chamberlayne Octob^r 2^d 1700 Accepts the Correspondence
— is using his best endeavours to raise a Charity School
in that Town, and hopes to Succeed therein, refers to M^r
Hook, to whom he marks out, what movements are most
proper to be employed, in promoteing Charity and good
works there — Desires M^r Ellison may not yett be
acquainted with what he is doing, and that a dozen of
the Printed Sheets about Charity Schools, be sent him
by the Newcastle Carrier.

- 176 M^r. Taylor from Wigan in Lancashire to M^r. Chamberlayne
Octob^r 4th 1700 Received the Books and papers and returns
thanks to the Society for the same — has disposed of the
Broad Sheets in the Publick Houses of the Neighbouring
Towns, to be sett up in Frames — is sending the Address
to the Popish Gentry, with a Letter, a Copy whereof he
sent inclosed — D^r. Brays Sermons^{are} delivered to the
Clergy to send to the Gentry in their Parishes, and the
Account of Societies to the Members of the Society began
in that Towne — For the Pastorall Letter, he will bind it
up with other peices of the same volume and distribute
it among the poor.
- 177 Coll Woodhouse from E. Lexham Norfolk to M^r.
Lay. Chamberlayne Oct^r 4th That 8 or 9 of the Clergy had
mett at his house, and the result was that each of
them should endeavour to form Societies in their
Respective Neighbourhoods.
- 178 M^r. Blackwell to M^r. Chamberlayne &c — Memorandum
That this Letter was lent to, and lost by D^r. Bray before it was abstracted.
- 179 M^r. Mapletost from Huntingdon to M^r. Chamberlayne Oct^r
5th 1700 Accepts the Correspondence, and writes That he
has already Dispersed the Christian Monitor, Letter
from the Norfolk Minister, and Pastorall Letter.
- 180 D^r. Hutchinson, from Bury S^t. Edmunds Suffolk to M^r.
Chamberlayne Octob^r 9th 1700. promises his Concurrence
as far as he Cann with that imperfect knowledge he has

of the Rules of the Society — writes that his Labours hitherto have chiefly succeeded among the better and middle Sort of Persons. — That those who are very high, are above Law and Discipline, and despise instruction. and that the poor are ignorant, barbarous, and without Principles, owing to the oppression and Misery they under go. That he has given them Catechisms without Success, because they cannot read. That he begun a Course of Catechising at 5 in the Evening on Sundayes, to which great Number of the Better Sort came, of the poor, few or none — That he had put out about forty Children to School with the help of some Charitable persons with little effect, which made some withdraw their Contributions. That his greatest Expectations are from those projects on foot for setting the poor on work, whereby they are put into Condition of living Comfortably. Discipline and Teaching may be contrived to fall in with the same methods.

181 M^r King from Exeter to M^r Chamberlayne Octob^r 7 1700
 Lay. proposes whether it would not be proper, before the Society
 * admitt any person into their Correspondence, to consult
 * with those who are already Correspondents for the
 * County wherein the person proposed lives? it being fitt
 that those who are to promote the designs of the Society
 in the same place should either know or approve of
 one another — Vide ^{the letter} ~~de his place~~: He approves of
 the designs of enlarging the Number of Correspondents
 and recommends M^r Drake Minister at Exeter.

182 Arch Deacon Booth from Easington, Durham, to M^r
 Chamberlayne Octob^r 8 1700 That he received a parcel
 from the Society and is well pleased with the Sheet

against the Quakers, and desires 200 of them, and adds
that he will communicate them to the Justices of the peace
He desires an Answer to his Last Letter, some Papists
and Quakers that teach schools having sett him at
Defiance.

183 M^r John Gibson of Welborn York shire to M^r Chamberlayne
Octob^r 6: 1700. That he had received a Letter from the
Society by M^r Lisle, and accepts the Correspondence
- And hopes that by the Advice and Influence of
this Society, the Clergy may be brought to practice
Catechism and Dayly prayers, which the Arch Deacon
had enjoyned at his visitation, and Printed Papers
since directed to his Arch Deacons. Direct ^{his Packets} to M^r
Hursts at York.

184 D^r Hutchinson from Bury, 1st Edmonds Suffolk to M^r
Chamberlayne Octob^r 12: 1700. Acknowledges the Receipt
of the Second Letter and Renews the Assurances of his
heartly concurrence (Carrier at the Bull in Bishops gate)

185 M^r Mapletost from Huntington to M^r Chamberlayne
Octob^r 12: 1700. Signifies his fear that few of the Clergy will
be prevailed with to Joyn with him. That abt a year
since; that many had declared against it, most were
cold in it, and but one man ^{joyn in it, that he has as little reason of hopes to} signified his readiness to ^{prevails}
with the Magistrates. That he could willingly resign
the part allotted him to some person of a temper more
active but however looking on the application of the
Society as a Providential Call, he will comply and
desires their directions and Prayers (Carrier Thomas
Foster at the Red Lyon in Aldersgate street)

- 186 M^r Frank of Cranfield in Bedfordshire to M^r Chamberlayne
Octob^r 14th 1700. Reminds the Society of sending particular
Answers to the Correspondents as Occasion offers, as a
Specimen sends an Answer to M^r Deffray, and a Postscript
to M^r Gilbert relating to M^r Young of Plymouth — Desires
to be Employed by them that way. Says that he has
prepared M^r Salmon of Mepsall for the Correspondence,
and wishes that some of the Society would doe the like to
M^r Browne of Arlesey formerly Parliament-man for
Bedfordshire.
- 187 M^r Gilbert from Plymouth to M^r Chamberlayne Octo: 15th
1700 Gives a Character of M^r Neile and leaves it to the
Society to judge whether he be qualified for their Designs
saith he hath proposed the Correspondence to him, and
that he had embraced it, that he hath great esteem of D^r
Bray, who would doe well to write to him, if the Society
make use of him.
- 188 M^r Ellison of Newcastle Northumberland to M^r Chamberlayne Octo: 15: 1700 The content of his Letter
chiefly concern D^r Brays Abstracts and the Pastorall
Letter, and a Bill he had before sent of 10^l, see the Letter
at Large. — He concludes, intimating some hopes he
hath of Subscriptions for a Charity School.
- 189 M^r Arch Deacon Entwistle from Cuslestons near Chester
to M^r Chamberlayne Octo: 16: 1700 Gives an Account
of the severall meetings of the Clergy in Cheshire, and of
Lancashire and of the severall sums collected at their

Generall meeting at Warington ... for poor Clergyment ...
 Widdowes and Children $\text{sc}^{\text{ilicet}}$ L^{ib} 97. 98. 99. 700. in the ...
 whole amounting unto 245. 15 — That they find it very
 difficult to gett their Magistrates and Gentry to their
 meetings — He desires the Papers designed for him
 and directs how to send to him.

190 M^r Gilbert of Plymouth to M^r Chamberlayne Octo: 18: 1700
 Complaines of great animosities between the Church-men
 under the Influence of ^{Major} ~~the~~ Generall Prelauncy and the
 Dissenters under the Influence of the Recorder S^r
 Francis Drake

191 Col^l Dudley from Cogges in the Isle of Wight to M^r ...
 Chamberlayne Octo: 19th 1700. Signifies that six of the
 Lay. Principles Clergy had mett at M^r Shergholes and that they
 had appointed M^r Scott to write to the Society with
 his Concurrence

192 M^r Scott of Northwood in the Isle of Wight to M^r Chamberlayne
 Octo: 21: 1700: That Col^l Dudley and some Clergy had
 mett and unanimously agreed to concur with the
 Society in the prosecution of their pious Designs —
 To make a particular inquiry into the imoralities
 & in their severall Districts against the next meeting
 and to apply themselves to the Civil Magistrate for
 Assistance — Intimates withall that they are afraid
 of being accused of Noveltty, not hearing of any Presidents
 of such meetings in any other parts of the Diocess, and
 desire the Society to endeavour that they may be ...

formed else where. likewise having not the Permission of the Ordinary, they object the 73 Canon against the private meetings of the Clergy, but to obviate it, would willingly apply to the Bishop, - only live in expectation of having some others Lead the way. By way of Postscript Col^d Dudley signifies his approbation.

193 D^r Hutchinson from Bury St Edmunds Suffok to M^r Chamberlayne Octob^r 22. 1700. That there are many Gentlemen well disposed to any good work, whom he names and particularly recommends M^r Holland as a proper Correspondent. That he intends to send the sheets to the Quakers with an Indorsement mentioned in his Letter, that he will take the first opportunity of acquainting the Bishop with the Designs and Methods of the Society.

194 M^r Drake from Exeter to M^r Chamberlayne Octob^r 23. 1700 Accepts the Correspondence.

195 S^r George Wheeler from Durham to M^r Chamberlayne Octob^r 22. 1700. writes that, D^r Morton had already recommended the designs of this Society to his Jurisdiction, as he had Account of them from the Vicar of Newcastle and that he will continue to doe so on all future occasions, as he shall receive Notices thereof from M^r Ellison - That he declines a personall Correspondence by reason of his Age - That M^r Keiths Sheet is liked well at Durham, and Numbers will be sent for.

196 M^r Blackwell from Bampton Northamptonshire to M^r Chamberlayne Octob^r 26. 1700. That he hath received the first parcel of Books sent him, and desires to know suddenly who ther he may dispose of them, the Clergy being to meet

(56)
at his house according to the Agreement made of meeting
at each others houses monthly

- 197 M^r. Frank of Cranfield Bedfordshire to M^r. Chamberlayne
Octob^r. 28th 1700. Owns his Satisfaction that his Services are
so acceptable to the Society, and asks whether he may make
use of the Lord Guildforde's name to the Correspondents
- 198 M^r. Heart from Portsmouth to M^r. Chamberlayne Octob^r. 29
1700. That some time since he endeavoured to furnish the
Youth with Bishop ^{Williams} ~~Exposition~~ Exposition — That a Society for
Reformation of manners was erected there, consisting of
the Mayor, Justices of Peace, Aldermen &c. and another
Society consisting of Tradesmen 23 in Number, which had
produced very good effects — That the Minister had
discouraged this undertaking, and misrepresented him
to the Bishop of Winchester, which gave him occasion to
Clear himself of all imputations, and withall the Societies
appeared worthy of the Bishops approbation. In time
he promises his hearty concurrence with this Society
- 199 M^r. Burscough from Totnes Devonshire to M^r. Chamberlayne
Octob^r. 29th 1700 That the Prints sent him are very
acceptable especially D^r. Brays Letter — That he hath
10^l. for the Plantations, five pounds given by himself
and 5^l by M^r. Humphrey Smith Vicar of Dartmouth
- 200 M^r. Taylor from Wigan Lancashire to M^r. Chamberlayne
Octob^r. 29th 1700. That he received more Books to be
dispersed among the Papish Recusants, and hopes they
may turn to good Account, That he is not yett so
well as to attend the Monthly meetings in order to

propose the Bedfordshire Methods, which he hopes to have in some measure putt in Execution

201 M^r Drake from Exeter to M^r Chamberlayne Novemb^r 6. 1700. That he finds a good inclination in severall, both of the Clergy and Laity, to promote the designs of the Society, which would not want its due effect, could the Bishop be induced to favour them, a thing at present neither to be expected nor asked, however he will do his endeavours in Conjunction with M^r King. That D^r Brays Letter will be of use, and desires a quantity of them.

202 M^r Young from Wrexham ^{Flintshire.} ~~Femlough~~ to M^r Chamberlayne Novemb^r 8th 1700 Accepts of the Correspondence, and promises to observe the directions of the Society. Speaking of the Corruptions of the Clergy, and their Remedies, saith Discipline must be restored, Catechising seriously applyed to, and the Magistrate be vigorous, and resolved, in Punishing Vice. That Wales there is a great want of Schools, and that in Wrexham some Gentlemen have promised to assist with their purses, and hopes others will follow the Example.

203 M^r Taylor of Wigan Lancashire to M^r Chamberlayne Novemb^r 8. 1700 That the Letter sent with the last parcel of Books never came to his hands. That he wonders much at M^r Styth and M^r Altherton's ^{silence.} That he designs to put in practice the method the Society suggested of Teaching Servants to read at Nights. Desires that the Cheshire Clergy may act as a Branch of the Corporation of Clergymens Sons, and that Application may be made to the Arch Bishop of Canterbury in that behalf.

204 M^r Bradshaw from Hamptwich Cheshire to M^r Chamberlayne

Novemb^r 9. 1700. That my Lord of Chester with the Aldermen have lately framed themselves into a Society for punishment of immorality &c. That he knows not whom to recommend for a Lay Correspondent. Complains of the Difficulties in suppressing vice. because, the Magistrates will not take private informations, and urge that till the Ecclesiasticall Laws are in force, all the effects of their punishment would be to drive people to the Dissenters, who he says are grown very insolent, especially the Anabaptists — That he cannot yett obtaine a Charity School, but out of his own slender and precarious income pays for the instruction of half a dozen — That vice there is very rife and Publick; and the Lords day sadly neglected under the Umbrage of the Toleration.

Lay 205 ^{North Riding} M^r Gibson from ^{Leam. 20th 1700} Welburn Novemb^r 10. 1700 to M^r Chamberlayne: fears the Miscarryage of his last Letter having no Account of the Receipt of it. refers to M^r Aylmer for the Conveyance of his Papers — desires to receive a vindication of S^r Bray in Relation, to the promises he made to the Clergy of finishing his Catechetical Lectures

206 M^r Frank of Cranfield Bedfordshire to M^r Chamberlayne wth Novemb^r 1700 desires that M^r Hawes be directed to send no more Pastorall Letters to the Correspondents without their order, nor to exceed the Number they send for — Advises that M^r Blackwell have leave to dispose of the Double packett sent him. Advises that short and particular Answers be sent to all the Correspondents Pro re nata, for want of which our designe (as well our Letters) remains unanswered

vid. the Letter: Suggest severall proper heads for such a sort of Letter and in order to Renew a Correspondence - particularly, to make Enquiry about the State of Religion in severall Countyes. and that such a Letter Mutatis Mutandis will serve for the say as well as the Clergy Correspondents. — Hints that those members that contribute least with their Purses, should bear the Greatest part of the fatigue — Advises that the Secretary should weekly acquaint the Society with the Substances of Letters, that require an Answer w^{ch} (if the Letters be of less moment) may immediately be returned by the Secretary by virtue of some generall Instructions, or otherwise that particular Letters may be referred to particular Gentlemen, whose rough Draughts shall be first Communicated to the Committee, & lastly laid before the Society, Advises further that as the Society increases in Number the Heads of their Debates may be prepared, and digested by severall Committees. Advises farther that all the Letters sent in the Name of the Society, be short without fringing or Tacking, which is inconsistent with the Honour of the Society — Advises that Gentlement should divide the Burdening of Answering Letters &c. as equally as they can amongst them which would make it easie to all — and Lastly offers his own and M^r Wottons Service in that matter.

207

Arch Deacon Entwistle from Criblington near Chester Novemb^r 15th 1700. to M^r Chamberlayne
That the Books are com^d safe to his hands — That the Call to the Quakers will be very seasonable, that Sect having much increased of late, in those parts. That the Bishop has dispersed great Numbers of Buggs — small peices. He answers not the enquiries about S^t Winifreds Well, the Season of frequenting that water

being over, That in the Inn called the Star, there is a Popish Chappell well Adorned &c. That when the next Season for the waters comes, he will desire the Advice of the Society in that affair &c. That they have few Country Parishes which have not a Free School, tho' there is a deplorable defect in the Management thereof, the poor can't spare their Children from Work, and many forgett what they have Learned. However that all ranks of persons seem disposed to give their Children better Education then formerly. That the Bishop is erecting a Charity School in Hester. Another is lately founded in that Country by Thomas Leigh of Darnell Esq. A Lending Library is erected at Namptwich which is likely to meet with tolerable Success, and that Such a design would be of unspeakable advantage in the Arch-Deaconry of Richmond

208 M^r John Braddock from Canterbury November 5: 1700 accepts the Correspondence

209 M^r Heart from Portsmouth Novemb^r. 22. 1700 That at present he is altogether incapable of bringing Societies in Esteem among Neighbouring Clergy being a Stranger &c. That M^r Hunt Rector of St oak is the most proper person to promote that design, and ~~he~~^{that he} erected a Society in his Parish in January last, to whom he preaches a Monthly Sermon, He proposes that a Letter be sent him

210 M^r Taylor of Wigan to M^r Chamberlayne Nov: 22: 1700 Sends enclosed a Letter from M^r Atherton to him, and desires the Society to give him instruction how to Answer it, and desires to know whether it may not be proper

for M^r Bridges to write to M^r [redacted] Says that he hath agreed with their usher to teach School [redacted] Read in the Evenings, and that there is a prospect of good success therein — That by distributing some good Books in [redacted] Parish, he hopes to create a Fund for the dispersing of [redacted], as an Instance of which, he says from 100 which he sent for in the last month, he now shall advance to double the Number

211 ^{N. Riding to M^r Chamberlayne}
M^r Gibson from Welborn, Novemb^r 27th 1700. That he has not received the Packett and desires Inquiry may be made concerning it — He desires a sight of D^r Brays Printed Letter — Complaines of the Neglect of the Clergy as to Publick Prayers and Catechising, notwithstanding the Arch Bishops visitation, Charge and other monitions

212 M^r Drake from Exeter Decemb^r 2nd 1700. That he received the Packett, That the Bishop of Exeter continues utterly averse — recommends D^r Osmond a Physitian of that City for a Correspondent

213 ^{Suffolk to M^r Chamberlayne}
D^r Hutchinson from Bury St Edmunds Decemb^r 2nd 1700 directs a Letter from D^r Bray, because, the first thing offerred at will be a Collection for his Libraries — That the Magistrates of the Towns have the matter of the poor under Consideration, and think to lay before your [redacted] That he has put into their hands, the Bristol Case, and Judge Hales Tract touching provision for the poor. That M^r Holland is as hearty as the Society can desire him

214 ^{W. B. for M^r Chamberlayne}
M^r Salmon from Mopsall Decemb^r 2nd 1700. Writes that he can give no Assistance in the 3 Branches proposed:

That in his own parish he has already answered the Design
of schools, but can't expect it should be generally done
in Country Parishes. That he knows some Parliament
men which he believes will endeavour to get a

* Cause, that the Overseers may ^{for teaching}
Children to read and work. That, as to the Plantations
our necessities confine our Charity at home. That
he has contributed to the Publick Library at
Beosford, and will endeavour to promote it with
others. He intimates that it is under the
Consideration of the Bishops to make the Clergy
more usefull in answering the end of their calling
according to the Antient constitution of our Church.
He declines being a Member of the Society but in the
Post-Script directs how any Letter may be conveyed
to him (viz^t) To M^r Foskett at Hitchin in Hertfordshire

215 M^r Todd from Port Royall in Jamaica ^{to M^r Ham Garland} Octob^r 11 1700
That on receipt of a Letter from ~~him~~ ^{the Secretary} he had
altered his Resolution of coming for England, and is
moved to the Rectory of St Thomas in the Vale, and
designs to continue his abode in the Island, Expresses
great approbation of the Design and Methods of this
Society in Propagating Christian Knowledge promises
a larger Account of the Success of their Endeavour
after their next meeting

216 ^{Commissary} ~~M^r~~ Bennett from Port Royall in Jamaica Octob^r 12 1700
That he received both the Secretaries Letters, thanks
the Society for admitting him a Member and promises
his utmost endeavours to promote their pious

designs - That he had summoned all his Clergy who had -
agreed on certain Articles* which he sends inclosed, and
that the Governour highly approved the meeting and
the result of it. That the Governour had given 5 Pistolls
which with other Sums he had sent to M^r Cyliner for
purchasing small Books. Intimates D^r Brag's
mistake in equalizing the Number of Churches to
that of Parishes; and desires a Catalogue of the Books
sent for a Library at Port Royall, he having seen
divers scattered in the Country, Marked for that
Library, which he will use his endeavour to Recover
the Governour and the Chief Justice having promised
to assist him.

* Jamaica, at Spanish Town. Aug^t 23: 1700

1 It is agreed upon, That the Clergy of this
Island doe meet at Spanish Town, at the
Church, the first day of each grand Court
to Consult about such methods as may
be most proper for Carrying on a
Generall Reformation of Manners

2 That nothing be agreed on by us, but what is
agreed to the Canons of the Church of
England, and what shall be proposed and
directed to us, from time to time by the
Hon^{ble} Society (in England) for propagating
Christian Knowledge

3 It is agreed upon, That every Minister
in his respective Parish shall use his best

endeavours to persuade those of his parish, who are best of ability to contribute to the providing all the poor people of his parish with Christian Monitors and familiar Guides, and to Report the success of his Endeavours ^{at} next meeting

217 M^r Blackwell from Brampton Northamptonshire ^{to M^r Hamberlane} Decemb^r 5th 1700, That he had Communicated to the Clergy at their meeting, the Account of the Cheshire Preachers, severall of whom are willing to joyn in the like method, that D^r Brays Letters were received with a warm sense of the Blessing of God in raising up so worthy an Instrument of his Glory, and that he will cheerfully promote a farther supply of Missionaries whenever the Bishop shall lay it before his Clergy

218 M^r Desfray from New Romney in Kent ^{to M^r Hamberlane} Decemb^r 6. 1700 That it will be difficult to Raise Societies of the Clergy in those parts, many being averse. That a foundation of one is laid at Senterden which he hopes to gett improved. That he has encouraged his own People to come to him in the Evenings, and proposes their Doubts, That he will Solicite Contributions to the Plantations, and Cast in his own Mite — hopes to obtain a Society for Reformation in New Romney if M^r Richard Baker could be prevailed with to espouse it and in order thereto he proposes him to the Societies as a Correspondent, and that, if he can prevail at home, hopes to promote an other Society at Lidd

- 219 M^r Drake from Exeter, ^{to M^r Hambrolyne 11th} Decemb^r 7. 1700. That D^r Osmond hath Given five pounds towards the Plantations, and that he has hopes of other Benefactions - That there seems an inclination to enter into Societies, and notwithstanding the Bishop is averse, one or two are formed near that City, which he intimates, wants to be Regulated. That in the North of the County he has communicated the Religious Designs on foot. concludes with Concern that he can only cast a Mite into the Treasury.
- 220 M^r Taylor from Wigan Lancashire, ^{to M^r Hambrolyne 22nd} Decemb^r 6. 1700 Sends enclosed the combination of the Clergy in Lancashire, Signifies that they first moved the designs to the Bishop. That the Hon^{ble} M^r Finch opened the Lectures, and that the North of Lancashire this year entered on the same Designs. That there have been seen sometimes 40 Clergymen present, besides the Gentry who dined with them, A Society is began at Wigan.
- 221 M^r Fenwick of Halleton, ^{Leicester. This to M^r Hambrolyne 11th} Decemb^r 6. 1700 Promises his utmost Endeavours to promote the Designs of this Society writes that he had made application to the Bishop of Lincoln, who very much approved and Countenanced their meetings, and advises soe to manage them, as not to give offence to the Neighbouring Clergy - That about 12 of them meet at one anothers houses by turns - That they concluded to propose a Contribution to the Plantations at the next visitation - He promises to contribute two pounds per Ann^o - Thanks the Society for the Papers sent him, and has endeavoured to make

the best use of them and will observe all further Orders - concludes with an Intimation of his Intentions to submit to the Judgment of the Hon^{ble} Society, a Discourse he designs to print for the use of his parish

222 M^r Langhams from S^t Brides Pembrokeshire ^{to M^r Chamberlayne} Decemb^r 7th 1700. That a Society is begun in that County, of Magistrates, Clergy, &c. S^r John Phillips having been the first Mover, and that they have disposed of some good Bookes among the poor, a Charity that continued in that County for some years, and that they have some hopes of doing good - That the Country will hardly afford two Societies, and at present is very much divided about Members for the Ensuing Parliament - That 9 Gentlemen and 3 ^{of the} Clergy are already united and more have promised

223 M^r Cranston from Rygate Surry ^{to M^r Chamberlayne} Decemb^r 23rd 1700 Having received the Printed list of the Welsh Divines wishes their Example may be followed thro^o out the Nation and that application might be made to the Bishop of Winton for that purpose by some Eminent Member of the Society. Writes that M^r Keiths Broadsheet promised him, together with the Account of Societies are not come to his hands. That he intends to buy 100 of the 2^d ^{part of the} Pastoral ^{Packet to be sent} by John Post Waggoner at the Greyhound in Southwark.

224 M^r Griffith from White Waltham near Maiden-head Barkshire to M^r Chamberlayne Decemb^r 20th 1700 -

writes. That he hath procured a meeting of 93 Clergy-
men, who have subscribed an Association, the form
whereof is as followes,

Whereas the Society which has formed it self in
the Citties of London and Westm. for the propagating
of Christian Knowledge, hath desired the Concurrence
of the Clergy of Barks, to Assist in carrying on the great
designs they are engaged in, the three branches whereof
are

- 1 The Education of Poor Children
- 2 The spreading of Christianity in the
Plantations, and
- 3 The reclaiming of those among us who Entertain
opinions inconsistent with the fundamentalls
of our holy Religion

Wee whose names are underwritten out of a true
Zeal for the honour of God, and the Salvation of
the Souls of our Poor Brethren, and out of a just concern
for the true interest for that truly primitive, and
Apostolicall Church, whereof wee are members;
as alsoe in obedience to our most Reverend
Metropolitan his Circular Letter, and the R^t
Reverend our own Diocesan his repeated desire, and
recomendation, doe in compliance with the reasonable
requests of the said Society hereby Associate
ourselves, to advise, consult, and Assist each

other, in Prosecution of the Ends forementioned, by such Rules as shall be agreed upon by us, according to the Laws of the Land, and Canons of the Church. In Witness whereof we have subscribed our hands this 16 day of December 1700. Subscribed by thirteen Clergymen, and hopes by the third of February the day of their meeting to have the Number doubled. He intimates that this is more than the Bishop could obtain in 11 years. adds that he has given Account to the Bishop and beg'd his further instructions & hath recommended to him a Gentleman for a Correspondent with this Society, and if the Bishop Approves, will acquaint the Society therewith. The Clergy at their meeting Agreed to bring in a Notice of their Respective Parishes, at least of the Poor Children and to subscribe towards their Education for one year, and then to sollicit the Charity of others, He received the Packett and Books.

225 M^r Frank from Cranfield Bedfordshire Decemb^r 23: 1700 to M^r Chamberlayne by the direction of M^r Ellis proposes M^r W^m Pearson Arch Deacon of Notingham for an Additionall Correspondent, and Accounts for his endeavours in Relation to M^r Browns of Arlby.

226 M^r Bedford from Bristol Decemb^r 24: 1700: Sends an Account of the Method the Clergy have taken in that City to preach in their Turns every Lords day against imorality and Prophaness, and that.

the Bishop is highly pleased with it, desires the Society to make application to the Bishop that the same method may be continued. D^r Read and M^r Cary have Excused themselves from entering into the Correspondency, instead of whom he recommends S^r John Buddlestone who is desirous of the Honour. That M^r Keith had noe Success there — That the designs of Schools succeeds well, subscription being raised sufficient for the whole number of Poor Children, except in three Parishes who have promised to take care of their own Poor — He suggests the reasons why that part of the Instrument relating to the Catechism hath been omitted, and what method S^r John Buddlestone tells him will be used to make amends for it. That he will Account for what can be done in relation to the Plantations, at present the Schools take up their whole thoughts. in the Close he promises to send his thoughts in relation to the reducing of the Quakers to the Communion of the Church, and hopes to be in London this next Summer.

- 227 M^r Braddock from Canterbury Decemb^r 23. 1700 to M^r Chamberlayne — That he has long endeavoured to form a Society of Clergymen without effect; a division begun by Parker Bishop of Oxford being not yett throly composed. Intimates the Great hardships the poor lye under thro' the decay of the weaving trade, and consequently the great need of a Publick Charity for the Education of the Youth.

228 M^r Fenwick of Hallaton in Leicestershire to M^r Chamberlayne 21 Decemb^r 1700 Gives an Accompt of the Sermon which he preached to his owne Parishioners upon the occasion of the Proclamation against vice and Immorality, Submitts it to the Judgement of the Society, and if it meet with their Approbation appoints the Book sellers, that are to print it. one end of his publishing this, he says, is that he may present his parish with something of his owne as well as with the small Tracts called the Christian Monitor, Pastorall Letter which he has distributed gratis himself, or recommended to such as were Charitably disposed &c.

229 M^r Bedford of Bristol to M^r Chamberlayne 8th January 1701. Imparts his thoughts about bringing over the Quakers, and says, that the reason of M^r Keiths unsuccesfullness, is because the Clergy doe not pursue the victory in his absence. Wishes that the Arch Bishop were applyed to, to enjoin the Clergy to Confer with the Quakers, as he has done already about the Papists. Suggest severall Rules to that purpose, which see in the Letter at Large — gives his reasons why such a method might probably succeed (viz^t) 1. because it has succeeded in the plantations. 2. because some of the Chief Quakers are grown more sociable &c. 3. because W^m Penn is absent, and 4. because of the Great divisions among them — Says that S^r John Diddleston has received the Societys letter, and laid it before the Brgy and the Society for Reformation,

which last were mightily affected with it. They are so^d taken up with Collections for schools that little is to be expected from them (he says) towards the designs in America &c. - lastly Complaines of the Great Ignorance and Atheism in Wales. & of the Contempt of the Clergy occasioned by the small provisions for them, and recommends it to the Consideration of the Society.

230

M^r De Beringhen of the Hague Holland to M^r Chamberlayne 11 January. N. S. 1701. Thanks the Society for their Letter to him and promises to attempt the raising among the Dutch such a kind of Society as ours - Says that he and 5 more French Refugees to witt. Messieurs Jurieu & Benoit Ministers of Rotterdam and Delft, the Marquis of Pernis M^r Chermilles and M^r d'Herwart Brother to our Kings Envoy in Switserland ever since the year 1693, were joyned in a Society for carrying on the ~~same~~ like designs, that upon the Account of their being strangers, and having lost their estates in France, they cannot Answer the intentions of the Society, but they will sollicite the same among the Dutch &c. - gives an Account ^{and} of a very advantageous Character of a Portuguese, that has lately abandon'd the Romish communion, wherein he was a professor of Divinity ~~and~~ at the university of Conimbra, his name is Peter Fernandez, and son as he says to a late viceroy of Fernambuco in Brasil - Says further that he is informed from Maastricht of the Arrivall of a young Spanish monk, at that place, a professor of Divinity likewise, a very Ingenious Person, and that both the proselytes agree herein, that all the Learned men of Spain and Portugall, are half Protestants; he sends us these Accounts he says, that the Society may perceive

what God seems to call them to, in respect to these half-
enlightened People — This Spaniard is named Molinos and
Nephew to the famous Quietist. — He mentions also another
Convert a Canon of S^t Genevieve at Paris, he is about printing
a book in answer to the Lutherans, called an Apology for
the Protestants touching predestination, he wishes he could
engage our French booksellers to take off some of them, and
to begin a Correspondence for the Good of Religion &c.

231

S^r John Duddleston of Bristol to M^r Chamberlayne 8 Jan^y
170^d, Say that he has communicated the Societys letter to the
Corpy and to their Society for Reformation of manners
who return their thanks — Gives a large Account of the
great Benefitt the City of Bristol has received from the
late Erected workhouses in that place, and of their provision
for all sort of poor, and what an Influence this has upon
upon the Lives and Manners of the bulgar &c.

232

Arch Deacon Booth of Durham to M^r Chamberlayne 9 Jan^y
170^d, Thanks the Society for acquainting him with the
Lecturs in Cheshire, and that he with severall of the
Prebents &c have settled a Combination for a Sermon to be
preacht, at a Church in Durham much neglected by the
Minister thereof and hopes thereby to reclaim some that
have deserted our Church — that he Catechises the Young
People at his house during the Winter, and visits
the old and Infirme, that are not able to come to Church.
finally promises to obey any farther directions of
the Society.

233

M^r Gilbert of Plymouth to M^r Chamberlayne 10 Jan^y
170^d, Owes the Receipt of D^r Prays Papers, and that
he has greatly suffered for promoting the Designs of

the Society, demands 400. of the Pastorall Letters &c.

234 M^r Drake of Exeter to M^r Chamberlayne 11 Jan^y 170^y
Excuses his Silence for want of matter, Says that he has
returned 6 Guinea's to the design of the Plantations
and hopes to make larger Remittances &c.

235 M^r Ellis of Gonalstone in Nottinghamshire to M^r Chamberlayne 15 Jan^y 170^y, Says that their affairs are
daily Strengthened by the Addition of Subscribers —
gives along Account of the Method of their Society. vidd
the letter — Says that they have reduced their meetings
to stated times, and that some of the Gentry and
Magistrates are very Assistant to them. Their
Subscriptions for the present year amount to 220. of
which 60 has been laid out in good bookes. Such as
Tillotson on the Communion, Beveridge on the Common prayer
D^r Ashtons, D^r Ishams bookes the Pastorall Letter &c. and
that the Remaining part is applyed to the Education
of poor Children of whom there are about 200 taught
That in November last they had got leave of the Arch Bishop of York to preach 4 Quarterly Sermons
at 4 several places in the County
in the County, the first of which was preached lately
at Nottingham — That the Subscribers meet once in 6
week to regulate their Charity and appoint Inspectors
of the Schools. Saith That he hath sent away the Society
letter to Arch Deacon Pearson

236 D^r Stanhope from Lewisham in Kent to M^r Chamberlayne
21 January 170^y, Says that he had ^{not} remained so long
silent but in hopes of giving his personall attendance
at the Society — mightily approves of the Design
of the Society, something of the like nature in relation

to Schools has been already attempted by him, where
 he particularly owns the Assistance of M^r Nelson.
 this was done at Lewisham, and he is about the
 same at Hertfordshire. Lastly thanks the Society
 and desires their farther Advice

237 M^r Fenwick of Hallaton near Harborough Leices-
 tershire to M^r Chamberlayne 21 January 1707
 wonders that he has noe news of his Sermon, thanks
 the Society for the Acceptance of his Mite, which
 he will return as soon as may be.

238 M^r Taylor of Wigan Lancashire to M^r Chamberlayne
 24 January 1707. Apologises for his Silence and Says
 that he has almost agreed with their Usher to teach
 Servants to read in the Evenings. Suggests the
 Printing of M^r Herberts Church Porch by it self in
 order to be learned by Children in Schools, sends a
 Specimen of the Alteration he would make in order
 to fitt it for the said use, and desires the opinion
 of the Society therein

239 M^r Hales from Schaffhausen in Swisserland to M^r
 Chamberlayne 12 Jan^y 1707 Thanks the Society for
 choosing him a Member and promises to Devote
 himself to their Service — gives severall Reasons
 why the designs of the Society cannot be carryed
 on in those Countreyes after the same manner as
 in England, namely that the Government being
 surrounded with Papists is very jealous of all
 Innovations, and that Private men are not allowed
 to dispose of their Charity either in Raising Schools

or otherwise without the leave of the Magistrate, but
 says withall that in some places none of those things
 are wanting, thro' the excellent discipline observed
 amongst them, particularly in Schaffhausen, whereof
 he gives a large account. — Proposes his Method for
 setting on foot a Correspondence between the Society
 and the Clergy of Swisserland, to witt, the writing
 Circular Letters to all the Protestant Cantons, which
 he earnestly presses again in the end of his Letter
 as the only probabls meanes of succeeding, and
 suggest severall heads for such a letter, which he
 desires may be writ in Latin, he will stay there
 till he shall receive those Letters from the Society
 which he will disperse according to directions ...
 together with some of our Books and Prayers — He
 says these designs are very well Relished by most
 of the Divines there, and that those that were great
 Enemies thereto thro' misrepresentation are now ...
 convinced and become as great Friends, particularly
 the Learned Decanus the head of all the Clergy
 in the Canton of Schaffhausen — when he has received
 the Societys letters he intends to goe into Germany
 where he promises himself good Success, ...
 especially in the Landgrave of Hessens Country
 of whom he gives a good Character, from thence
 he will proceed to Swedeland and Denmark — has
 shown a Swedish Count some of our little tracts, who
 was mightily pleased with the same, particularly
 both the Pastorall Letters, the Caution against ...
 Swearing &c which are Translated and now in
 the press — He intends to print some of those
 things in every Protestant Town as he goes along,

particularly some in French for the poor Refugees.
 the Antient, Waldenses and the protestants of Orangs
 — gives a great Character of D^r. Woodward's book ab^t
 Religious Societies which was printed at Berlin,
 and dedicated to the Princess of Brandenburg
 married to the Prince of Hesse-cassel — Tears some
 great Chang^s from the present junctur^s of affairs
 in Europe — inclosed a letter from M^r. Scherer to the
 Society and Accounts how exceedingly pleased they
 were at S^t. Gall with the Noble present of English
 Books, which M^r. Scherer will diligently sett about
 translating, and that there is a learned D^r. in
 the same town, who is about D^r. Horneck's works.
 and has already Turned D^r. Burnetts works into
 Latin, which are much esteemed there; wishes that
 some good peices were written to animate the
 people to the Defence of their Religion and Native
 Country, which might be frequently and, publicly
 read, he would send such a little treatise taken out
 of the holy Scriptures, if he thought it might be
 acceptabl^e

240 M^r. Scherer from S^t. Gall in Switzerland ²⁴ Jan^y 1709 to
 the Society. writes that the pious designs of the Society
 were known and mightily approved of there, espetically
 since M^r. Habs had given them an Exacter account of
 it. He accepts the Correspondence with great Testimony
 of Gladness, and Returns thanks for the Books sent him
 which he promises to translate forthwith into the
 Helvetian Tongue, as soon as he Receives them, and
 afterwards to Lay them up in their Publick Library

with a suitable inscription, He is very thankful for the Honour done to his Son: and says that he is sure that a closer correspondence with the Chief Ministers of the Helvetian Church will be very acceptable to their Nation, but desires that a farther consideration of this affair may be put off for a while. He excuses his freedom in cautioning the Society to have a great care of Popish Missionaries, who are implacable Enemies to it, and its designs, and concludes his letter with his prayers to God for its prosperity and establishment.

241 D^r Franc^L from Hall in Saxony 21 Jan^y 1700, to the Society owns the Receipt of the Societys Letters, and of the Books sent with them, for which he returns thanks. — He Excuses his long Silence which he says was caused by the outward Insults of ill men, from various temptations within, from a long fit of Sickness and especially from the unexpected delays that have hindered the Printing some little Books which he intended to send to the Society, together with his Letter, by a friend of his. One of these books (which, he says, are all ready for the press) is a large Description of all those statutes and orders of which he has the direction and of the Rules and methods they observe in their Schools. But he hopes those obstacles will be removed that have hindered the Publication of them. He seems much affected with the Honour done him in making him a Corresponding Member of the Society.

The Love and Charity of this Society, he says, does Answer
 the expectation of those pious and learned men in Germany,
 who have heard any thing of the designs of it. And that -
 they doe presage that many benefitts will, by its means
 accrue to the whole Christian Church, especially a -
 strickter union among protestants. He says, that
 the great successe of the Societies undertakings, is
 Knowne in Germany by the Meanes of the Reverend
 M^r Jablonski a Chaplaine to the new King of Prussia
 who has translated the English Account of the Religious
 Societies into High Dutch. Which Book has been
 already very usefull not only to many particular
 Persons, but to a Religious Society at Nurenberg -
 He hints, that the harvest of the Lord growes Ripe
 there, and shews the pious inclinations of People
 of different stations, and Conditions, of both Sexes,
 wishing that the Lord would send them more labourers
 - As for himself and his Partners they make it -
 their business to promote the Interest of Religion,
 without any respect to a temporall advantage -
 but Relying up the help and Assistance of God alone
 whose blessing he says seems to have followed their
 Endeavours. That 'tis this Consideration alone that
 keeps him at Hall, when as otherwise, he should very
 much desire to be present at the meetings of the -
 Society. - But since Christian Charity to his -
 Neighbours does for the present prohibit this, he
 will study to be as usefull to the Society as he can
 - To this end he thinks a Correspondence may be

serviceable, in pursuance of which, he promises to hereafter to communicate some of their Affairs.

- 242 M^r Adamson of Burton in Lincolnshire to M^r Chamberlayne 22 Jan^y 170^o; sends inclosed in his Letter by the Hands of S^r Edmond Turner a new Copy of the Articles of their Society, with the Alterations made lately, he would have communicated them sooner had he not waited for such an opportunity. Says that some of the Clergy in other parts of the County have received severall Copies of those Articles, and intended to build on the same Modell — Says farther that they might have expected a Much greater Harvest if some that were unwilling to unite with them, had not spread abroad malicious Reports against the Lawfullness of such Assemblies, wishes therefore that the Articles might be laid before the Arch-Bishop, and the Lord Chief Justice Holt, and their opinions asked therein, that accordingly what were disliked might be amended, and if approved of, they might proceed with more Courage and Resolution, but this he submits to the pleasure of the Society.

- 243 ^{M^r} Arch Deacon Willett of ^{near Eivencester} Stretton Gloucestershire to M^r Chamberlayne 3 Feb^y 170^o; Says that the utmost they have done yett in those parts has been to disperse a few Practicall Pieces among their flocks, but are not without hopes of setting up a School at

Cirencester of like Nature with that at Gloucester where of he
 Supposes we have had an Account. - this is the reason
 why we hear from him soe Seldom. - owns the Receipt
 of the last Tackett and rejoices at the Success of the Society.
 Wishes that the Laws were more effectually in restraining
 the Sin of fornication, which the Ecclesiastic Laws cannot
 reach, either thro' their Weaknesse, or the Corruption of their
 Officers, and by the Temporall Laws this Vice is noe other-
 wise punishable than unless a Man has a Bastard, nor
 even then, if he can secure the Parish from the Charge of
 it, hopes the Parliament will provide therein, and the Society
 excuseth his freedom occasioned by his zeal &c.

244

M^r. Dormington from Witlesham ^{near Tenten} in Kent to M^r. Chamberlaynes
 5 Jan^y 170^e, Declares how sensible he is of the obligation he
 lyes under to promote the good designs of the Society, and
 that he will not be wanting in himself, or in Encouraging his
 Neighbours of the Cregy in the same, severall of whom he finds
 well disposed towards the work. - The reasons of his long
 Silence are, that he has been a great while detained in London
 by very sensible afflictions, that the ways are unpassable
 in the Cuntry and like to be soe, and besides that he has been
 wholly taken up in suppressing of Practicall Atheism, Neglect
 of the Sacraments and all the Worship of God, and which is
 worse, because Damnable as well as the other, Error, Schism,
 and Heresy, wherewith his parish has been long over-run.
 Proposes some Difficulties that occur to him in his Endeavour
 for promoting Christian Knowledge and Wishes the
 Society would advise and direct him how to obviate
 them. The choifest of those Impediments is the Liberty
 either Given or taken by the Dissenters, by their toleration
 to Revile and Disparage the Church, wherby they prejudice

their hearers against all that is offerred by our Ministers, another is their zeal in promoting their severall Sects and Perswasions, another, The liberty given to illiterate and Handy craft men to Preach and teach, provided they Sub.scrib^d Certain³ Articles. another, that they invade any mans Parish and refus^d to produce a Certificate or Licens^e for Teaching &c. upon all which he largely expatiates, and Concludes with his request to the Society that they would use their Interest with the Members of Parliament in order to Regulate the toleration &c.

245

M^r Gordon, from on board his Maj^{ty} Ship the Salisbury, to the Secretaryes Assistant, Jan^y 22. 1700. Writes that since his departure he has had time enough to Methodize some thoughts of his, concerning the propagation of the Gospell among the Indians in North America: which thoughts or Proposals, he has also sent Enclosed in his Letter, desiring that they may be Read to the Society, whose opinion he shall not expect till his Return. says that he will take espetiall Care to dispos^d of the Shrots the Society ordered him, in the Manner they are intended, and beseeches Heaven to prosper their Nobl^e designs

246

Lay

M^r W^m Collmors of Warwick to M^r Welchman 17 Jan^y 1700. Thanks him for the Account of Societyes and promises to stir up the Neighbouring Magistrates to the Execution of the Lawes for promoting Reformation - says that the only thing to be reformed in their Towns is the Peoples absenting themselves from Church under pretence of want of Room^s, which they will endeavour to obviate by ...

searching suspected houses in the time of Divine Service — is glad that the Society does not require an Oath, despaired of such meetings there, because most of their Gentlemen are bound for London — did not well understand the Secretaries Letter and besides has mislaid it — Promised to disperse M^r Keiths Papers

247 M^r Edward Welchman of Lapiworth in Warwickshire to M^r Chamberlayne 8 Feb^y 170^o; Says that such Lectures as the Cheshire Divines have sett up are not wanted amongst them and besides are lyable to Inconveniences that need not be named, but however they will sett up a monthly lecture at Henly in Arden — That the Sermons sent by him are not his, and believes they still ly at the Warwick Carriers

248 Arch Deacon Booth of Easington in Durham to M^o Chamberlayne 15 Feb^y 170^o; Says he is endeavouring to settle Montly communions in his jurisdiction, and has writt to the Respective Ministers to preach up the duty thereof. and that he has sent a Circular Letter to his Clergy to cause all the Young People of the age of 18 to come every Wednesday and Fryday in Lent to their houses and to prepare them for the Easter communion, and the servants a Sundays on the same Account — wishes the same were done thro' the whole Kingdom he having had great Success therein — desires the Number and quality of the Gentlemen of the Society and that the Bishop of Chester would please to attempt the engaging the Lord Warrington into the Society.

249 M^r Selward of Reggate (in Surrey) 20 Feb^y 170^o to

Lay. M^r Chamberlayne excuses his Corresponding with the Society upon the Account of the Unpracticableness thereof, and gives severall Reasons vid. the Letter — Says that M^r Cranstone is setting up a standing Library, which he hopes Will draw the Clergy together and be the Occasion of a Society at last — Promises to disperse what Books or Papers the Society will send to him

250 M^r Vincent Edwards from Alnwick in Northumberland to M^r Chamberlayne 21 Feb^y 170^o; Thanks the Society for admitting him a Correspondent — Says that in August last about 9 of the Clergy in the Deanary of Alnwick agreed to meet monthly, and engaged themselves continually to prosecute their duty upon severall Heads, which see in the Letter, and lastly that they Adjourned to the 2^d Thursday in March

Lay 251 M^r John Cocks of Gloucester to M^r Chamberlayne 21 Feb^y 170^o sends inclosed a large Account of the Charity Schools in Gloucester, and Suggests that the same thing may be done at Hereford by the means of the Deane of that place and Canon Watts whose piety is much commended

252 M^r Patrick Gordon from on Board the Salisbury in the Downes 22 Feb^y 170^o to M^r Wanley desires an Account of his proposals for propagating Christianity in North America, as also of his project about the Seamen, and hopes that the Society will apply to their friends in Parliament for a Bill upon those heads — desires the Society to Apply to the Bishop of London

to send downe a zealous man to be the Admiralls Chaplain
 — Says that a little Tobacco seasonably presented to
 each seaman after some good advice given & would have
 great effects, and prays the Society to send downe a
 Considerable Quantity to be disposed of &c.

253 M^r Edward Welchman of Lapsworth in Warwick shire to
 M^r Chamberlayne 24 Feb. 170^o; sends a Coppy of the
 Bishop of Worcesters letter to him, by whose kind promise
 he says they have been so much encouraged that they shall
 make a shift to sett up a school, but that they can do
 nothing for the Plantations &c.

254 M^r Wotton of Milton in Buckingham shire to M^r Chamberlayne 24 Feb. 170^o; Excuses his silence
 which his Neighbour ~~the Doctor~~ M^r Frank he says
 so well Attones for. Having taken notice of the
 Societys designs of Promoting Christian Knowledge
 amongst the Græcians, he earnestly recomends D^r
 Woodruf Principall of Glocester Hall, for that
 purpose, who he says shewed him a Draught of
 a Catechism ready to be translated into modern
 Greek &c.

255 M^r Heart of Portsmouth to M^r Chamberlayne 1
 March 170^o; excuses his Silence by reason of
 some circumstances, which his Brother he says
 shall Account for, Excuses M^r Hunt the
 Correspondent for Gosport upon Account of his illness

256 M^r Atherton of Liverpool to M^r Taylor of Wigan 15
 Novemb^r 1700, Shews the Difficulties of Erecting

a Charity Schools there by reason of the want of more
 50000 Transport debt, their Law suite with the
 Cheesmongers, wherein they have been twice cast,
 their building a new Church; a Tax for the maintenance
 of Ministers. besides the deadness of Trade. Notwithstanding
 all these discouragements M^r. Styth and his ^{did} hope to
 raise 6 per ann^{um} as a Salary to some poor women for
 teaching so many poor Children. with this they intend
 to begin, and then to try the Charity of others.

- 257 The Bishop of Soder and Man to M^r. Chamberlayne 19
 Jan: 1700. Writes that the Clergy had mett monthly all
 the last Summer in some Church in the Market Towns, where
 a Sermon being first preached, they consult proper
 methods for carrying on the designs of propagating
 Christian Knowledge. That they had agreed to Raise
 a small fund by Subscription for Schools, decayed
 Farmers and distressed passengers, and that many of the
 Laity had concurred with them. He bewailes the
 Ignorance of the common People, and that few of them
 understand English, and saith that he is endeavouring
 to bring them to read it, and that 200 of D^r. Brays
 Lectures and 500 Pastorall Letters have been disposed
 of among them with good Success. He desires to know
 the Method of Regulating the Charity Schools, and to
 have the Arch Bishops Circular Letter. Directs
 how to send to him by post or Carrier.

- 258 M^r. Hales from Lindow in Germany, to M^r. Hooger 8 Feb: 1700. Writes that the Divines and Magistrates of s^t. Gall

are so extremely pleased with the Designs of the Society and the Present of Books and their kind offer to M^r Scherer, that they purpose to send the Society a Letter of thanks in the Name of the States, together with Assurances of their Joyning with them in their Pious designs &c. Desires that with Letters to the 4 Cantons, one should be sent to the Divines of St. Gall, and handed to him per the first (as he would also have the Societyes Directions and Advice every fortnight or three weekes at farthest) By the same method, he says, that Letters may be sent to the States of each Canton, tho' he hopes those to their Divines will be sufficient. Says that ³ Divines will Encourage the States of each Canton to order publick meetings to consult how to putt those pious designs in Execution, and to acknowledge the Care and Love of England to their Helvetic Church: this with other Endeavours he hopes may Cause that Harmony amongst Protestants as may be most advantageous to them — Farther, that M^r Scherer intends to dedicate to the Society his Synchronismus Chronologicus now in the Press, wherein he will publish to the world the Society's most Christian works and happy success with his thanks for the present of Books and kind offer to his Son, which Generously coming from England, he says, is far more acceptable than if the Emperour or French King should present them with a 1000 times the Value. He says that 'tis generally supposed that the Papists are now plotting more furious then ever, to raise Pediton and Rebellion amongst us: and therefore since the Protestant Interest does depend upon the Welfare of England, he

proposes that, ^{at} all Maritime Towns each passenger should be examined
 & and private letters searched for, when the Coverdarges are
 forging Mischeif they send their Letters by private
 Messengers and not ppost, for fear that Search should be
 made after them. he desires alsoe that care should be
 taken to find out their Cabbes and places of Rendezvous in
 London, and beleives that such a Methode would have
 good success — Desires (for divers reasons) that the
 Number of the Society be Increased, that they be all
 English and noe Foreigners to be admitted, unless some
 vertuous Prince or person of good Quality — That M^r
 Scherer is translating into high Dutch, M^r Dorringtons
 Guide to the Holy Communion, which will be soon printed
 and that he is willing to translate into German or Latin any
 other good book that comes from England — That the daily
 devotion, Pastorall Letter and Caution against Swearing
 are now Printed at S^t Gall and that he hopes to gett some
 more at the Place he resides in at present — Lastly he
 highly approves what M^r Hodges had mentioned to some
 about recommending our nobility and Gentry that travel
 to seek more the Interest of our Religion and Country —
 then any thing else, and he promises that if any sober
 young Gentleman is willing to travel with him on those
 termes, that he will endeavour to help him to all accomplish^{ts}
 becoming a true Christian, and will take as much care of him as
 if he were his Brother

259

Mons^r Scherer from S^t Gall in Switserland is Feb^y 1700, Writes
 in Latine to M^r Chamberlayne, that the Honour the Society
 has done him and his Son, will meet with the Publick thanks.

of their Government, and will be transmitted hither, as soon as they
 have made choice of a fitt Messenger — That he will sett upon
 the Translation of the Books sent him by the Society as soon
 as he receives them, and that so much the rather, because
 he finds that his translation of the Pastorall Letter and
 of the Guide to dayly devotion dispersed there, and in the
 Neighbouring Regions by M^r. Hales and others, has mett with
 all possible Success. — In the mean time he will translate
 the Christian Monitor and M^r. Derzingtons Institution
 of the Holy Sacrament, which he hopes to publish within
 a month. and he hopes he may add to these Books, some
 Prayers taken out of D^r. Woodward's Accounts of the
 Religious Societies without offence to any, — Wishes
 that the Author of the Caution against Swearing (lately
 translated into the Helvetian tongue by Mons^r. Vitus the
 Antistes of Schaffhausen) would write also against the
 other vices in order. Adding that tho' the Ministers of the
 Helvetian Church are not wanting in their duty in this
 Respect, yett Assistance from abroad and especially
 from England (whose pious Books they have the
 greatest Reverence for) they find by experience has
 the best effects — Laments the proneness of their
 Comonality to Dice and Cards, which they should be glad
 to obviate by any means, the Caze of the Magistrate and
 Rebukes of the Minister having hether to proved ineffectual
 — Intimates that in their Annual Synod (which is hold
 after the Sunday called Misericordias Domini,)
 they exhort their willing Magistrates to the
 Distruction of vices — That as to the present state
 of their Church, they should look upon it as prosperous

enough, did not. Pictism spread so much in the Canton of Bern and if the Difference in Glaris and Appenzel about the observation of the Style were appeased — As to the Correspondence between the English and Helvetic Churches he proposes ^{that} ~~the~~ Credentiall Letters for M^r Hales be written and sealed with the Seal of the Society, and directed either to each Ministry, or to all together. But whether to the one or the other, he advises that to those of Zurich, Bern, Basel, and Schaffhausen, there should be joyned the Ministers of Glaris, Appenzel and S^t Gall, and if 'tis thought fitt, those of Geneva according to Custom, to those letters which are sent to Zurich, he directs a particular Supercription — seems concerned at the Rumors of Warr, the effects whereof upon our Religion he prays God to avert and that he would bless the Pious designs of the Society.

260 M^r Margetts of Hempston in Bedfordshire to M^r Frank, March 8. 1700. — Expresses his joy and Satisfaction for the Receipt of M^r Frank's Letter (which acquainted him with the Benefaction of the Society, intended to his parish) — shewes his resolution to surmount the difficultyes he dayly meets with, and Remembers the Publick Services of John Peirson and John Reynolds. The former teaches gratis 15 or 16 poor Children to read and instructs them in the Church Catechism without Exposition brings them to Prayers as often as there is any, and twice in the week meets another Company of Adult Persons

(about 8 in Number) in the Towns and hear's them read, and trains them up in Bishop Williams's Exposition of Church Catechism. The latter instructs gratis another Company every night at his house, in the Catechism, in Reading and Serious Principles, and endeavours to bring them to an awfull sense of God and man — Says that he goes himself sometimes to encourage them. — That on Friday nights they have their publick meeting in the Church, where there is a great appearance of either age and Sex, and all things are carryed on in Decency and order — Says that the Societys Kindness will be a great advantage to their proceedings, and that he will distribute their Books with as much prudence as he can.

261 M^r Thomlinson from Newcastle to M^r Chamberlayne March 8 1700. Writes, That a Manufacture to imploy the Poor has superseded all former designs of Erecting Charity Schools — He accounts for the Methods the Corporation has used to imploy the poor — Is endeavouring to form a Society for Reformation of manners out of a Religious Society, and desires papers and instructions for that purpose. He designs to endeavour to induce the Brgy of Northumberland to follow the Cheshire President, gives a Character of M^r Edwards as a pious and Goodman. Hopes to obtain a Society of the Brgy in Alnwick Deanery, and saith there is one already in Morpeth Deanery, and that he will try to promote Reformation Sermons. He demands the Pastorall Letter and the other Pen'd by the same Author in all 500 &c. — And sends an Account of the Prints he has already received.

262 M^r Fenwick of Hallaton in Leicester Shire to M^r Chamberlayne

March 10th 1700. Thanks him for the Care he has taken about the
M.B. and gives him Advice of the 40 which he presents to the
Society, which he says is far more generous in them to accept (it
being so small a present) than in him to offer.

263

M^r Ellison from Newcastle to M^r Chamberlayne March 11th 1700.
Writes severall particulars contained also in M^r Thomlinsons
Letter N^o 261. Besides which he says that he has disposed of most
of D^r Brays Books, and wishes he could promote the sending away
Missionaries, as to which at present he wants the Kings or Bishops
Recommendation — says that they have Catechetical Lectures
there every week, except in Lent and Advent, when they have
sermons on Wednesdays and Frydays — Ownes his Receipt of
2 Boxes of Bookes &c. and Concludes with his good wishes to
the Society.

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no 264:265 & 266 missing in this copy

see Vol. I

- 267 D^r Osmond from Exeter 24th March 1701 to M^r Chamberlayne owns the Receipt of the Societys Letter, and his great Satisfaction of finding so many worthy men engaged in such good Designs, - Promises his Service as a private person but unless the Convocation countenance the matter, fears that few of the Dignified Clergy will meddle with it. Desires some more of D^r Brays Packets which are mightily liked in those parts &c.
- 268 M^r Lorrington from Withresham in Kent 27 March 1701 to M^r Chamberlayne, Acknowledges the Great Civilities he has received from the Hon^{ble} Society, and fears they should think that he had neglected writing to them, Whereas he writt some time since but doubts the Letter has miscarried because there was no answer returned to it.
- * 268 ^{Perrith near} D^r Todd from Carlisle to M^r Chamberlayne 27 March 1701 owns the Receipt of the Societys Papers and D^r Brays Acts of Visitation, says that the Business of the Plantations would be carryed on more effectually if the Convocation were applyed to, and that he has writt to his Brother in Jamaica to promote the same &c.
- 269 D^r Jephcott from Evesham Worcester Shires to M^r Chamberlayne 29th March 1701 owns the receipt of all the Societys Letters and Packett and thereupon in July last applyed to his Diocesan for leave to Raise a Society which he obtained under his hand, that accordingly 14 of the Neighbouring Clergy mett in Sept^r and afterwards monthly, that they had prayers and a Sermon, that they purchased some numbers of Little Books which they Distributed gratis or Lent, they agreed also upon catechising

and on private Homonitions, and to Promote Charity Schools that they have sett up one in Evesham, consisting of 40. poor Children, which they hope to enlarge by Subscription from Persons of Quality that are freemen of their Burrough. — that their good Bishop has promised to add a Tenth to what soever shall be subscribed on the same account, in all places of his Diocess, that there are few Papists but many Quakers in Evesham some of whose growne Children are — Baptised; that there are Monthly Sacraments in his Towns but cannot be so in the Country Parishes, and that Prayers are much neglected — That some of them are well inclined towards the maintenance of Ministers in the Plantations, if they could be put into a proper Method for it. but that their livings in those parts are very mean, whereupon he recommends the Case of poor vicaridges to the Bishops that some provision by a Law might be attempted by them. — Says farther that there is a meeting of the Clergy — at Upton on Severne, at Henly in Alden, and at Alcester 7 miles from Evesham &c.

- 270 M^r Braddock of Canterbury to M^r Chamberlayne 3 April: 1701
 Says that they have no Charity Schools nor work house tho both Much wanted, that there is no Society of the Clergy, nor Parochiall Library near them — that there is a Sacrament every Sunday in the Cathedral, and monthly in 3 other Churches, that a Religious Society did pray for a Preparation Sermon but were weary of it, and now the Clergy give it gratis that there was another but it is like to fall: that there are few Papists or Quakers but on the Sea coasts, that Anabaptists are the Strongest party among them, and there is a Society for Reformation

who have assisted in putting down some ill houses?

- 271 M^r Showell from Gravesend to M^r Chamberlayne 4 April
1701 Accepts the Correspondence thankfully and desires
the farther advice of the Society — That he is going to sea
with S^r (Lo: Shovel in the Barfleur and that it would be
very necessary for the Admiralty to recommend to Captains
the Countenancing of their Chaplains, and for the Bishop
of London to send a Superintendant. gives a good Character
of M^r Trulove a Clergyman and Master of the Free-school
at Gravesend.
- 272 S^r George Wheeler to M^r Chamberlayne Durham 28 March
1701 Says that according to his promise to the Honourable
Society the last year, he has sent a Scheme of some
proposalls which if duly put in Execution he conceives
would tend to the Restoring the Decayed Discipline of
the Church and to the Encouragement of vertue, Holiness
&c. These proposalls consist of 10 Articles in Substance
That all Societies should be according to Ecclesiasticall order
that they should be composed of Rurall Deaneries in
subordination to Arch Deaconries, Diocesses and Provinces,
whereby they might more easily Associate, and more
frequently meet; that out of severall Rurall Deaneries
the Arch Deacon might form his Society, and if the Diocesan
would vouchsafe to do the same with his Dean, Prebends
and Arch Deacons it would highly resemble that Apostolick
Presbuterion the Scripture and S^t Ignatius so often
mentioned that nothing more could be wished but that
the Arch Bishops would put them selves at the head of

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these Society. That it would mightily Conduce to the Benefit of his People if each minister would Associate with the chief of his Parishioners and the Church wardens. - That the members of Societies should not be too numerous for fear of falling into parties, that the Number should not exceed Twelve besides the President or Chairman, that if occasion offers Some of the Saity should be added to these Societies out of the Nobility Magistraty and Pious Gentry. He believes the Lord ~~arch~~ Bishop of Salisbury does something like this in his Diocese as far as he could observe from the visitations of his particular Deanries, lastly he is desirous he says to know how the Society approve of this Scheme, that accordingly he might Consider of some farther Regulations.

273 M^r Gilbert of Plymouth from Exeter 5 April 1701 to M^r Chamberlayne, says that all he can doe is to take off some of the Societies Small book^s that he gave ^e to a Library which D^r Bray raised at Plymouth, but that nothing more has be done therein, not even by M^r Martin the Minister who promised ^e 2 to the Sam^s - That he has brought over ~~over~~ one Quaker Gentlewoman to the Church - That there is not one Papist or Non Juror in Plymouth - That there are monthly Sacraments, and Prayers twice a day, but noe Societies till the Bishop gives leave

274 M^r St Langham^{rn} of ~~Br~~ St Pembrook Shire 11 April 1701
Lay to M^r Chamberlayne says that if they can form but one Society of Clergy and Saity in their County. that some of the former refuse to joyn with them - They have monthly Sacraments and Lectures in 2 or 3 Towns, noe workhouses and few Schools, that they distribute

Books among the Poor and Mr. Keith's Papers among the Quakers, who are
too obstinate as not to read them

275 Mr. Winfield from Newcastle 7 April 1701 to Mr. Chamberlayne —
Has communicated the Societies Letters to Mr. Ellison their
Minister. Says that the Corporation has agreed with a Person
to take ^{Ten} Boy and Girls every month and teach them to spin
woolen yarn till they are able to maintaine themselves, and that
there is a Schoolmaster to teach them to Read &c. That S^r William
Blackell has taken upon himself to be overseer of this matter the
first 6 months. That the Mayor of the Towne has promised to
take away the Licenser of such Publick Houses as suffer
Tippling on the Lords Day

276 Mr. Harnes of Llanttrissant Glamorgan shire to Mr. Chamberlayne
8 April 1701. Says that altho he has communicated the Societies
Letters and Papers to some of the greatest of the County, it
has been for the most part Unsuccessfull. That many of
his Brethren had promised to promote catechetical Lectures
according to the Bishop of Chichesters System, Translated into
Welsh by D^r Evans, That there will be a meeting of the
Clergy in Easter week &c. That many of the Quakers eyes
have been opened by the distributing Mr. Keith's Papers, That
there are two Schools in Llanttrissant. That the Poor are Numer-
ous, Lazy and stubborn, and so much addicted to Sports even
in Divine Service, that he has been forced to become Church
warden in order the better to Restraine them. That above 200th
pound is collected, but does not suffice to put out all the poor
and to maintaine the aged. Lastly that he shall be Glad to
Receive farther Directions and assistance &c

277 Mr. Andrew Granston of Reigate in Surrey 31 March 1701 to
Mr. Bromfield, owns the Receipt of the Packet, and says there

is Little to be hoped for in his County where there is no Justice of the Peace near them, and where he can ^{not} induce the Clergy to meet. That they have no Charity Schools, No Societies of the Clergy, and no Converts from Quakerism. That one Library has been lately set up and in his Parish monthly Sacrament and the Number of Communicants Increase Daily, that there is but one Society for Reformation of manners in his Neighborhood, which is at Kingston. That he knows none so fit as Mr. Bromhall to succeed Mr. Lelyard as Lay Correspondent to the Society

278 Mr. Obervald of Neuchâtel in Switzerland to Mr. Mason 21 March 1701 Says the Clergy will meet there in a day or two in order to raise a new Schoole, and that in consequence of the Letters from the Society and the account which he has caused to be their Printed, says Father, that in order to instruct their children in the holy Scriptures, he has made an Extract of all the choicest Passages of the New Testament which he intends to print and make the youth learn it by heart that he has ^{had} some thoughts of compiling two sorts ^{of} Catechisms one ^{short} and plaine for the ^{use} of Children that begin, and rather more large and Particular for the Catechumens. That they admit none to the Sacrament that cannot read, wishes that the Society at London would write to their Dean and ministers as a body which would make them act much more vigorously, That they shall hold their Generall assembly on the First of May where if such a Letter mett him it would have a wonderfull Effect

280

Mr. Patrick Gordon from Deal 10 April 1701 to the Secretarys
 assistant desires to know what has been done about his
 proposals in Relation to the Fleet and the Indians of
 North America and that the Society would lend him down
 7 or 8 Thousand Copies of the Paper against Swearing
 in order to be distributed thro the whole Fleet &c that it
 would be a good method to distribute such sorts of ~~written~~
 Papers amongst the Merchant Men by Lodging a good
 Number at Gravesend. Lastly wishes that the Society would
 buy some of our English Bibles printed in Holland, and lend
 them thro the Fleet for which he proposes a method -

281

Mr. Arthur Berford from Bristol 14 April 1701 to Mr. Chamberlaine
 says that the Society for Reformation had ordered him
 before the Receipt of ours to communicate some better
 methods for preventing the Abuses of the Lords Day, which
 shall be shortly sent and a full answer to all the Points
 in the Societys Letters of which he will transmit the
 Contents to J. J. Dudgeons Esq. Read and Mr. Gary

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J. W. Daves of Bocking in Essex 16 April 1701 to Mr. Chamberlaine
 says that he knows of no Charitable Schools or work houses
 near him, Excepting a Schoole and Library built 2 or 3 years
 ago at Maldon, and a work house near Colchester, that
 there can be ^{no} Societys in those parts for reasons he cares
 not to mention, no monthly Sacraments but in his own
 Parish. Few Papists of Note, The Chief are the L. Petre and
 J. Edward Southcote in Mucking and I believe the Quakers do
 mightily abound, few or no Converts, great Number of
 Dissenters especially Maggletonians, the Gentry Generally of

of the Church are pretty good, severall Parishes have lately adorned their Churches, his has lost 200th on that account But one Society for Reformation, and that under ^{his} Directions and they goe on very well.

They want Books to Distribute amongst the Poor and workhouse to imploy them, that they dissenters lett their Children goe to Church, that M^r Whittham is a Stranger to him, and the way to Lind to him is Directly from London. Lastly that tho ~~he~~ he Cannot attend the Society he will allways Joyn with and assist them -

283 M^r Robert ^{Hales} ~~Haght~~ from St Gall Swisserland to M^r Hodges
 Lay 11 April 1701 Repeats his advice and earnest Intreaties to the Society to enter into a Correspondence with the whole body of the Helvetick Divines, and to acquaint them with what has been doing in England the hopes whereof he ^{and Chastanin} gave him great assurance of their zeal to protestant Reformation of ^{Swiss} ~~Swiss~~ is a Society set up at St Gall
 Says has made the ministers of St Gall, & a fund for Printing & Dispensing Bibles and such good books as shall be recommended to them from England, that upon the same account the Senate and Ministers caress him mightily & lately Entertain'd him very splendidly that one Letter to Zurich the Chief Protestant Canton may serve for all the rest they being obliged to communicate to each other all important matters, and that the Society need not write to them above 3 or 4 times a year, That at his Return home, if the Correspondance ly heavily upon the Society he will willingly manage that part himself for all these reasons he hopes the Society will not refuse w^t he desires. He prays M^r Hodges to prevail with some of our Bishops to give the Inclosed Letter to his B^r S^r Thomas, it relating to a Designe of converting S^r John Hales from Popery wishes that his B^r were a Member of the Society, he finds that many of the Divines in Germany and Swisserland are for attempting an Union of Protestants, & that the impending Warr is

is likely to promote it. He intends to advise with professor Frank and D.^r Speiner about it - wants any small Treat that exactly describes the present State of Popery & of the protestant Religion that a Governour of the Grisons would publish it there and send some thousands of them to Noble men of Venice, Genova, and Milan with whom he corresponds and who are much inclined to a Reformation.

284 M^r. John Jacob Scherer to M^r. Chamberlaine J^t. Gall in Swisserland April N. S. owns the Receipt of a Letter from the Society dated the 25 Feb: & how great a Spur it has been to him in the Business he is undertaking. Says that He in Concurrence with other zealous ministers of their Church & some rich Laymen have Dispersed severall Thousand Copies of those little Treats sent by the Society and by him translated wherein he has been employ'd day and Night. Says farther that altho the Society do not conceive any great hopes from entering into a Correspondence with the whole Body of the Helvetican Ministers, yett they look upon it there as a thing that will much forward the Designes of the Society, That M^r. Hales being arm'd with such Credentials will have a much freer access to them and also put a stop to the odd notions that some have already form'd to themselves of the very Name of the Society. That M^r. Hales stays at J^t. Gall in Expectation of such Letters, and that as soon as he has received them he will proceed on his Travels together with M^r. Scherers Son, in order to promote these excellent Designes throughout all Swisserland and Germany.

285 Monsieur De Beringhen from the Hague 19 April 1704 N. S. to M^r. Chamberlayne excuses his Silence upon the account of his Illness, that he has attempted to

to Raise a Society among the Dutch, but that the main objection is that to settle Churches and Schools ^{is} the Business of their Clergy who would not fail to Complain of the Inerohment to the Supream Powers, and moreover that there is no need of them in Holland where the States have to liberally provided for both, says therefore that if he can fix a Society it shall be only for a Correspondence of Letters & for Printing small Tracts in order to promote ^{Christian} Knowledge that the Gentlemen of the Country were Inclined to leave the management of those matters to the 6 Refugees who had begun it, but upon their Representation how necessary it was that a matter of so great Importance should be Carried on by the Natives of every Country &c, they seem'd to be satisfied with those and other Reasons, Desires a more particular account of the Business of the Society and of the Condition and Quality of those that Compose it that he might be furnished with new Arguments for those Gentlemen who do already agree how usefull such a Correspondence is amongst all Protestants and how effectually it would be to prevent the Designs of their Common Enemy the Pope of Rome and of all other Sectaries, when this is done he doubts not but they will readily imitate a Society which has already inspired in them Respect Love and admiration

In answer to the Querie abt the Proselytes he says that the Spaniard has prov'd a Deceit & withdrawn himself, but that they are well satisfied in the Sincerity of the Portuguese whose Character they have receiv'd from his own Country and that we shall shortly have some of his works they do not however Trust him much, for they have been sometimes Deceiv'd after Ten years Experience. - Promises to send an abstract of ^{Christian} Doctrine translated from the Latin of Henry allings, which he hopes may be

Usefull to the Plantations, as also a Project of union between the Lutherans & Calvinists which the King of Prussia and Elector of Hannover are now Labouring, he believes it may not be impossible to settle a Correspondence in those parts, Mr. De La Bergeie a French Minister at Hanover being desirous to know what is doing upon that occasion in England, but wishes that it might be managed by Lay men of note and Learning, one objection of the Dutch Gentlemen against a Correspondence is that they find it difficult to write in French, and yett more in Latin which they are not used to. but he has offer'd his assistance in Translating their Letters upon occasion. Lastly he desires the Secretaries Shortest directions and Concludes with his Profound Respects to the venerable and Holy Society

- 286 S^r Hutchinson to M^r. Ch., Bury S^r Edmunds in Suffolk 25 april 1701. Says that he was always of opinion he could never promote the good Designs of the Society unless men of Character and Influence would joyn with him, whom he has found very backward, but hopes that the new Act of the Society may give them new thoughts That the Chiefe of their Town & Especially Mr. Harvey one of their Burgesses are considering how to imploy and reach y^e Poor, and till that is over, he does not think fit to propose to them the Project of a Charity schoole - Says they have a Library in his Parish Church of an ancient Foundation, monthly Sacraments and full Congreg^{ns}, that the Papists are almost one to forty, That 2 or 3 quakers have been lately baptiz'd but none of note - That he has disperst some of Mr. Keiths tracts amongst them, but can gaine nothing by Dispute, finds them rather very obstinat and disingenuous of which gives a notable Instance Says that S^r John Holland since the Death of his Father has left their parts

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287 M^r W^m Johns of Stroud in Gloucestershire to M^r Chamb.
26 April 1701. Heartily approves of the Designs of the Society
but ^{says that} his mean Abilities & Circumstances fetter a willing mind
Excuses his meddling with affairs in Transmarine parts,
having so many objects of Ignorance & Poverty at home
He knows not, how to be a member of a Society, where he
cannot attend, by reason of Distance, nor hear others thoughts
nor propose his own. - yett if he can be usefull by way of
Correspondence he is ready to embrace it, but would have
none think of him above what he is -

288 M^r John Tatam of Sutton on the Hill Darbyshire to M^r Ch.
20 April 1701 Says that he has nothing of moment to
impart to the Society only that the Uncle of M^r Gilbert of
Locko has left a Legacy of 60th for the payment of 3 poun.
yearly to a Schoolemaster to teach 10 poor Children, and
that they have built a Schoole at Spondon for the said use
They have no Charity Schoole, nor work house, nor Society
of the Clergy, No Libraries nor monthly Sacraments, but
few Papists & some lately converted, That there is an old
man in his Parish whose wife and Daughters are
Papists, but himself a Protestant, & so would his Grandson
be, if he would permit him, desires the Advice of the Society
what is to be done on this occasion - that the Quakers as
well as other Dissenters do rather increase amongst y^m
and make many Proselytes amonge the Poor People of
the Peak who live remote from Churches w^{ch} for want
of Tythes cannot be supplied as they ought, all which might
be prevented if the Society would procure an act
of Parliament to allow all piously disposed Persons to
give and settle Tythes for the maintenance of poor
Rectors and Curats Notwithstanding the Nature of mortmain
that he is directed by a worthy person to intreat the Assistance

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of the Society in this Matter, and to take it into their Speedy Consideration, that a Specimen of such a Bill, & an acc^t of the Case which occasion'd it shall be Lent up as soon as he hears from them, that something of the same Nature has been projected by Dr Deant, but he being retired into the Country, his fear'd the Design is Dropt, but if the said Dr. be known to any of the Society he desires they would procure and send him a Copy of that Bill

That there is but one Society for Reformation of Manners at Darby, composed of Dissenters, for the Church men refuse to joyn with them, that they meet with great Discouragement the Justices refusing to accept the printed warrants, and Neglecting to Record those that are convicted, there appearing none since Michellmas last - wishes that the Clergy were impow'rd to punish Profane Swearing and Drunkenness; Hopes that when the Bpp visits the Designs of the Society may be sett on foot againe effectually among them - He hears the Quakers have dispart a sheet in answer to m^r Keiths —

289 M^r James Smith of Cottenham in Cambridgeshire to M^r Chamberlayne 28 Aprill 1701 - wishes he could return a satisfactory answer to the Enquiries of the Society, That the Country People are so far from contributing to the Charge of the Schoolmaster, That they will not allow their Children to attend them, and that the poorest sort have not Leisure whereof he gives an Instance in his own Parish —

290 M^r John Lewis of Ayr in Kent to M^r Ch 29 April 1701 Says that they have no Charity Schools nor workhouses That he has kept one school himself during 2 Summers

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and taught about 50 Children. That three ministers
in Canterbury have monthly Sacraments, and one at St. Johns
in the Ile of Thanet. That there are but 2 Popish Families
about them. My Lord and Lt. John Hales, that they
Quakers rather decrease, that the People are Generally
ignorant, and but little care to make them otherwise
that there is scarce a minister but has 2 Livings, some
3 or 4, by which means Catechising is wholly neglected
That most of the Prebends of Canterbury have livings in
the Country, so that there are reckoned not 12 ~~years~~ ^{years} ~~him~~ ^{him} that
are now Resident that this, and the poorness of the Livings will
Effectually hinder all Societies of the Clergy, & so does also the
interchments of Simoniackal Patrons, notwithstanding all which
he believes the Clergy might do greater things, then they do, if
this Notion did not too much prevail amongst them. viz: That
all their Business lies in the Church and they have
Nothing to do out of it - That the worst sort of Anabaptists
are very Numerous among them, and no care to prevent
the Increase of them. That there is one Society for Reformation
at Canterbury and but two Justices that encourage the
Design -

291 Thomas
Mr. John Hewell from the Fleet on board the Barflies at
Spithead to Mr. Chamberlaine 28 April 1701 Promises to
disperse the books and papers ~~and Books~~ of the Society
amongst the Seamen. Says there is no such thing as
a Chaplain Generall in the Fleet tho highly necessary -
that the Service of God is wholly laid aside in some
Ships, by the Contrivance of the Seamen - That a Capt. has
Comanded him in the middle of his Sermon to leave off
in the Kings Name, and that he has desired him in Gods
Name to sit down and hear him, proposes that it should
not be in the Capt. Power to Choose what Chaplin he

thinks fitt, That such Chaplains as behave themselves well
on board 4 years Should be promist encouragement on shore
that their Certificates Should be Necessary to all persons in
order to their Preferment, & lastly that the Bpp of London be
desired to send a Chaplin Generall

292 M^r Othwald of Neuchatel in Switzerland 6 April 1701
To m^r Maçon says that the Designs of the Society begin to
be visible in his Country, that they have set up a Schoole in
Neuchatel, but that at Bern they are not so well affected
to these Matters, that every body there that appears for
Reformation is branded with the Name of Pictist that
Some Divines are very rigid against the People so call'd,
that their Temper may be quieted by the Censure past
on his Book of the Causes of the ^{Corruption} ~~Corruption~~ that reigns
among Christians, viz: That it is a Dangerous Book -
that None are admitted into the Ministry or Magistracy till they
abjure the opinions of the ~~Pictists~~ Pictists (tho they have not ^{declared} ~~defined~~
what are those opinions) and swear that they will show no Favour
to the professors of them, and that they Talk of rendering such
an oath to all the People - That the plainest Account that can
be given of those Pictists is, that Some of them are Enthusiastical
having fill'd their heads with the Notions of Madame Bourignon
and the Quietists, but that in Generall, and for the most part
they are Pious & serious People and such as Submit themselves -
both to the Church & State, differing in nothing from either, but
in leading a more Godly & sober life That they begin to suspect
him, and that one of his Friends wrote thus to him: *De Societate
Anglica vbi gratulor, sed quid hoc ipso Nomine nobis Suspectus
es. to which he answered, Si Christus ipse in Terris versaretur
incognito, etiā vobis Suspectus esset.* Dato 11 april. 1701 that he is
translating

100) translating the Communion Service used at Zurich, which is very like that in England. that the whole body of ministers met & agreed to disperse some hundreds of the ac^t. received from England and that they have desired and obtained of the Magistracy some further Laws against vice &c

293 Mr. Arthur Bedford of Bristol 3 May 1701 to the Secretary, desires to know w^t Methods have been Taken by the Society for Reformation of Manners to prevent Boys from playing in the Streets on the Lords day and men from spending their time idly on the Change, in the Fields or else where in Divine Service. wishes that the Society for Reformation in London. did hold a Correspondance with all the others in England & Wales in order to carry on their work the better, In answer to the Societys Letter of the 11 April, he says that Charity Schools goe on very successfully in their City. that Subscriptions are made every where, even in Parishes that have no poor of their own. that the Bp. has Subscribed 5^l and the Chancellor 40^l. That the work houses are very Regularly maintained that they Children amounting to 250^l are taught the Princip^{les} of their Religion, to read &c. and obliged to frequent public prayers twice every day, that there is a Society of the Clergy in Bristol, and others in the Countie of Gloucester and Somersett.

294 Mr. Thomas Hewell from on board the Barflew at Spithead Near Portsmouth to Mr. Chamberlayne 6 May 1701. says that J^r Cloudy Thovell mightily approves of the Societys designs, and that He (Mr. Thovell) from his Secretary of all the Ships that are at Spithead, and particularly those ^{desig^d} for the West Indies, & of the Numbers of their men, that he will give Mr. Gubs his Share for Admiral Hobsons Division and that as each man comes into the Stewards Room for the Mess of his Company he will distribute the Books and papers to them &c. Lastly promises the Concurrence

of his Head, His Hand and Pocket to stem the torrent of
vice & Athism.

295 Dr Nichols of Lelsey in Sussex to Mr Chamberlain 6 May 1701
says that Extraordinary Business call'd him out of Town before
he could finish the Latin Letter which the Society ordered
him to draw up for the Ministers of Zurich but that he
sends it this Post to the Bishop of Chichester

296 Professor Francke of Hall in Saxony to Mr Chamberlain 24 April
1701 N. S. owns the receipt of the Societys Letter dated 25 Feb.
ult. and recommends Mr Andrew Kock the Deacon by Birth
a Swede & Governor to the Count Watdeck by whom he has
sent a Printed account of his Schoole which being in high
Satz he desires that Mr Ludolf or Mr Chamberlain may
Abstract and Report it to the Society, wherein (he says) those
that want no Materials to carry on such designs, Can hardly
Conceive the Infinit Difficulties which he meet with in
raising a School, which from very low beginnings about
Six years agoe has frequently experienced the Mercies
and Providences of a Bountifull God. That he earnestly
expects a farther Account of the great things lately done
in England for the Support of the poor, The Education of youth
and the Extirpation of Publick vices for as the account thereof
being Translated into High Dutch has raised a good Spirit in
many parts of Germany so he doubts not but the Progress
& Continuation thereof will equally increase the Glory
and Kingdom of God.

That they have three monthly Sacraments in their City,
at the Cathedral St Nicolas and St Philips

That there are no Libraries lately erected amonge them
Nor likely the Income of the Clergy being Generally mean
excepting the Preferments in the Cathedral, which
being in the Lord Keepers Gift are generally bestowed

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on such as are Non Resident - That there is but one
Papist in the City, and he a very sober person -
That since Mr. Keith was there, there have been no Converts
from Quakerism, the reasons of which are, that he has not
been seconded, and that the Quakers having been alarmed
make it their Business to hand about some of their
Subtillest writers as: Barklays Apology Dells works The
Truth of God held by the Quakers &c but Especially by
helping New Converts to good matches

That the Society for Reformation continues still, but
visibly decreases, that they have set up a weekly Sacrament
at St. Nicolas against Inviolability, and that their magistrates
are very zealous &c

He reckons their Discouragements under 4 heads:

1. The Defect in our Laws.
2. The frequent Aspersions against Informers.
3. ^{Want of} Publick Funds to fee Council against Informers
4. Lastly the Removing Causes to the Kings Bench &c

In order to obviate these, he says, that the magistrates resolve
to conceal the Names of Informers, that their Society will raise
a Fund against the other and that they will Endeavour to
bring back Causes by a Supersedeas wherein Mr. Mason
the Ch. J. Holts Clerk has been very serviceable.

297 Mr. J. Lewis of Ayrse near Canterbury to Mr. Chamberlain
qu. 10 May 1701 Says that the Lord Strangford is the Papish Lord
he meant in his Last Letter - That S^r Tho. Hales is the fittest
Person to attempt the Conversion of his Kindman S^r Edward
but questions his Undertaking it because he is a man of pleasure
&c - Wishes that the Parl. & Convoc: would Consider of the
Neglect of Divine worship which he attributes to the want
of Churches in the out Parishes of London and in Market
Towns, & to the slender provision for the Ministry, Complain

also of the Generall Neglect of a Christian Education of
poor Children &c —

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299 Mr. Thomas of Larnarthen to Mr. Chamberlaine 19 May 1701
Says that he Defers^{ed} answer the Societys letter of the 27th March 1701
till he had discoursed some of the chiefe Gentry abt schools &
workhouses, in the last of which Nothing will be done with-
out an act of Parliament which they daly expect, but of
the first we shall shortly receive an account by S. J. Philips
that there is but one Society of the Clergy consisting of 11 persons
No Libraries, few monthly Sacram^{ts}. No papists and but few
Quakers, there are some Societys for Reformation of manners
which have been so successfull that Drunkenness, swearing
Profanation of the Lords day &c are generally suppress and
the State of Religion very much mended, No discouragements
but the want of Good Bishop which he heartily prays for &c

300 Mr. ~~Zach~~ Zach Taylor from Whitmore^{in Lancashire} to Mr. Chamberlaine
19 May 1701 Excuses his Silence for want of Health &c
Congratulates the Society for their choyse of Mr. Horton, promi-
ses a full answer to the Societys Letter within two months
during which time he is to attend the Bishop of Chester in
his visitation. Says there are two good Libraries in the North
one at Cartmel, other at Kendal which he will endeavour
to get made Lending Libraries, and that if the Society
would give some Encouragements to those Libraries, He
would attempt the same thing at Manchester —

301

Mr. John Tatam of Sutton on the Hill in Derbyshire to Mr. Chamberlaine 10 May 1701 Thanks the Society for their kind & speedy answer. Says that Mr. Wilson of Morley is come up to London in order to prosecute the bill mentioned in his last. Says that none of the Justices will engage in the work of Reformation except Mr. Thacher, and that Mr. Cole of Hadburn would be very Instrumentall if application were made to him from y^e Society.

302

Mr. Blackwell of Brandon in Northamptonshire to Mr. Chamberlaine 19 May 1701 Says that they have no Charity Schools nor workhouses lately endowed, but that the Poor about them are Employed much more then formerly in the Spinning Trade that there is no Society for Reformation of manners near them, but that the Society set up by the Bishop of Peterborough is still Continued, and that it is of good Effect not only for the People but also for the Dispensing of good and useful Books amonge their Respective Parishioners. Supposes Mr. King has accounted for the Library erected at Northampton that it is hard to bring the People to monthly Sacraments in Country Villages that there are but few Papists & but one Dissenter of any sort amonge them, that severall of Dr. Brays Sermons have been Dispersed and hopes to see a good Effect thereof upon the People. Further adds

303

Mr. G. Drake & Mr. Richard King to Mr. Chamberlaine from Exeter 20 May 1701 That their maine Endeavours have been exerted in the American mission. That there are four Societies of the Clergy Consisting of y^e Deanries of Newton Bushel Totnes, Tipton and Chudleigh, that they shall shortly receive from one of them their

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Subscriptions towards a Missionary and hope to ^{bring} the others to the same. That there are Three workhouses raised by act of Parl: at Exeter, Tiverton & Crediton and that they with the Society would use their Interest to procure a Clause in the Generall poor's Bill that the Children may be brought up in the Church of England, That there are but few Papists Quakers Socinians or Deists, ^{among these} that the Bulk of Dissenters consists of Presbyterians and Independants who however have gained no ground of late That there are no Charity Schools nor Societies for Reformation, but if application were made to the Bishops they would not despise of either, That there are monthly Sacraments in the Churches of their City, and a Generall Preparation Sermon ^{preachy} by the Ministers on their Turn, - That they will next proceed upon Parochial Libraries of the Society will give them their Instructions and send some of Dr Brays Pieces upon that Head.

304 Mr Patrick Gordon from on board the Swiftsure at Spithead 24 May 1701 Promises to Consult with Mr Sherrel and Mr Gubb as soon as the Societys papers shall come down and to distribute them throughout the Fleet, and desires to know what the Society has done about his Proposals for Propagating the Gospel in North America.

305 Mr Egerton Harding of Newcastle under line Staffordshire to Mr Chamberlaine 20 May 1701 Says that in that town they have two Charity Schools for both Sexes & well endowed but not lately Erected, that they have severall Societies of the Clergy in the Neighbourhood, and one of which was sett up about a year since in his Town, consisting of 16 ministers who meet Monthly have a Sermon and a Numerous

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Congregation that severall of the Magistrates and Gentry have associated with them, and that there is a visible Increase of Piety & Morality amongst them, That they have a Library pretty well stocked, but want some pious Tracts for the poor who are well inclined & frequent the Sermons that are monthly Administrated, and lastly that there are no Papists nor Quakers in the Town, and but few in the Neighbourhood

306 Mr Thomas Frank of Cranfield in Bedfordshire 26 May 1701 to Mr Chamberlaine sends the Index to the Book of Abstracts, & gives a short account of it and also a list of the Children of the Schoole at Kempston, and of the Books Distributed amongst them by order of the Society which he says has given a great Reputation to their Endeavours, that he has directed severall Packets composed of the small Tracts against vice & immorality to diverse Magistrates, as secretly as he could, and that if the like method were observed by the Correspondance throughout the Kingdom the Design of Reformation would thereby be easily communicated &c

307 Mr De Beringhen from the Hague 20 April N.S. 1701 to Mr Chamberlaine gives an account of the little Tracts and M.S. sent by him viz: that the M.S. are short Specimens of the wit of Fernandes the Portuguese Proselyte and the Printed Tracts of Different Authors viz: that the 5 Petitions and the Pastoral Letter are the last words of Mr Brousson the martyr, the Apology for the Reformation of Mr De vallone a Proselyte, who has also printed an account of his Conversion at his own Charges of which Mr deB. gives a grate Character, & adds that he will send over a hundred Copies thereof in order to reimburse the

1745

Author, finally begs pardon for the Liberty he takes in
that matter

300
Lay. Mr. Robert Hales to Mr. Chamberlaine from St Gall
in Swisserland 19 May 1701 Says that he has received
the Secretaries Letter of the 14 March and that he shall
proceed more ~~more~~ heartily in his Designs since he finds
them so acceptable here at home that they are no less so in
those parts where he know resides for that a Pious & Learned
Divine at Zurich did preach before a large Synod of Divines
lately, and did mightily exhort them to forme themselves into
Societies, wherewith they were so affected that they resolved to
Receive him (the said Mr. Hales) with a Particular honour
when he comes to that Place. That Dr. Woodward's account
of Societies is much enquired after, that the People of Schaff-
hausen Zurich and St Gall have given commissions for the
Bringing a great many from Berlin, where they were printed,
that he thinks it therefore best to defer the Printing the Abridgmt.
lest the ordinary People should first sett up Societies,
which will offend the Magistrates. That he thanks the
Society for the offer of their Assistance, but hopes he shall
carry on the Translation & printing of the English Books
without any Charge to his Friends here, that Mr. Thorer
as well as others do ingage themselves with Delight therein
that he is indefatigable, that his Translations are extremely
well performed and that he is about a New Edition of the
Whole Duty of Man. Gives an account of the Methods
he uses in Publishing our little English Tracts viz. that
he first prints a small Number at his own expence, and
Distributes y^m where ever he goes to persons noted for their
Charity & Piety as well as Ability, giving them an account of the good
that has been done thereby in England and other parts, when
he has ingaged them into the same Designs they print greater

Numbers of them, which they Dispense among the Poor gratis,
 and to those that can pay for them at very reasonable Rates,
 that this is likewise a means of Bringing Good men together
 and of Forming Societies. He againe suggests the great
 advantage of a Publick Correspondence between the Society
 & the Swiss Divines - wishes that an account of the Society were
 laid before the King - applauds the design of the Society in
 regard to the Leamen, & hopes they will not forget the Land-army
 gives an account of the Facility of Conveying both Books
 and other Assistance to the French Protestants in y^e Gallies,
 but fears that the approaching war will render it more
 difficult, as also of Lending small Tracts to the Swiss Soldiers
 in the French Kings Service - Intends to disperse some of those
 Godly Tracts amongst the Papists and gives an Instance
 how well they have been relished by them, till they discovered
 that they were writt by Protestants, and of their Prejudice
 against them on that account only. Says that at first he
 was much suspected & his Designs traduced, but when
 People came to Enquire into the thing it Turned much
 to his advantage, & they Received him with the greatest
 Tenderness, he owns the Receipt of the Society's Letter of the
 24 March - Signifies his Apprehensions of the attempts of
 the Papists, and how much he has heard them threaten
 England, That he will publish amongst the Protestants of
 those parts the Tender Concernes our Church representatives
 have shewn for their Reformed Brethren - Gives a
 large account of the great veneration and esteem our
 King is held in amongst them - That the Books sent by
 the Society to Mr. Lheret are safely arrived that he
 has already begun to Translate Mr. Kettewels Book
 of Christian obedience and that Mr. Yates Book is already
 in the Press of which he gives a great Character. That

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30 of A. B. P. Tillotson's Sermons are Translated into High Dutch,
and Bishop Burnet's Exposition of the 39 Articles in Latin,
That there has been held a Synod lately in St. Gall of
about 40 Ministers who have agreed to have the Children
Catechized in five Churches which was formerly done
but in one, That as soon as Mr. Yates's Book is printed, he
intends to disperse that and others through Germany -
whenever he will carry with him Mr. Thierens son, but
that first Mr. Thierens himself will make a little
Tour with him (Mr. Hales) in the Adjacent parts
Switzerland and the Grisons Country where they are
very Ignorant, That the Printing house at St. Gall
has full Employment with the Society's Books of
Devotion &c and that some of their small Tracts are
likewise Printed at Zurich, Basel, Bern, & Neuchâtel
That he sent lately one hundred little books to the
Swiss Soldiers in Holland, That the new Books are
mightily enquired after, that the Poor People ^{hunger} ~~have~~
him for them as earnestly as if he were to give them
meat or Clothing, & lastly gives a Remarkable ~~Instance~~
Instance of a Servant Maide that brought all the
had in the world about 24 Crowns to the Society in
order to be laid out in Printing Books of Devotion

309 Mr. Vincent Edwards from Alnwick in Northumberland
~~to Mr. Edwards~~ 22 May 1701 to Mr. Chamberlaine says
that his Packet was found in a warehouse at Newcastle
by Mr. Tomlison, to whom he desires his Letters may be
directed for the future. that he hopes to procure leave
from his ordinary for prayers and a Sermon at the
Monthly meetings, that he has dispersed most of the Society's
Books among his Brethren who will send for more as
they want them, but that he himself (having Printed
an Exposition on the Church Catechism, A Short

(110) Persuasive to Prayer with a Closet Prayer and Prayers
for a Family at Morning and Night for the Lord's Day
and weekdays. Shall furnish his Parish with his own
little Pieces.

310 Mr. Othervald from Neuchâtel in Switzerland to Mr.
Mason 23 May 1701 mentions ^{one} letter he has writ-
tely, and particularly, in which there was a memorial
of M^r. Filsch, & an Extract of a letter from Mr. Trenchin
of ^{Geneva} ~~Street~~, abt the uniting the Episcopal & Presbyterian
wherein he offers to declare Publickly his own sense and
that of his Church - expresses his sorrow for the ill -
success of the Convocation - gives a large account of what
they are doing at Neuchâtel in Religious matters viz:
That they are setting up Schools every where, that they
have printed a Collection of Proper Scripture Texts
which they distribute among the Poor but that their
Chief Care is taken up in providing their Churches with
good Ministers in relation to whom they have agreed -
upon some excellent Rules Such are, first that their
Young Students shall be obliged to spend at the least -
4 years in the Study of Divinity: 2. That none shall be
admitted to that Study till they are allowed to be fit for
the ministry. 3. That such as game, keep women Company, or
Learn to Dance shall be judged incapable. 4. That they shall
bring from the Places of their abode Testimonials of their
Morals. &c Promises to send the Liturgy of the Sacrament
of the Church of Zurich, & features that of the French -
Church as retaining nothing of Antiquity - Desires
a Character of Mr. Robert Hales whom he expects
shortly from St. Gall, and from whom he has received
a Letter giving an account of his Designs &c finally expresses
his great desire of conversing with some worthy Englishmen.

311

M^r. John Tatam of Sutton on the Hill in Derbyshire to M^r. Chamberlayne 4 June 1701. Says that M^r. Wilson who came up with the Bill which he formerly mentioned to the Society, intended to have Communicated it to them but being obliged to a hasty return has by the Directions of their Diocesan, left^{it} with the Marquis of Harlington who has promised to bring it in to the house. Lastly he hopes that the Society will use their Interest in both Houses for the promoting of the same.

312

M^r. Tcheret of St Gall in Switzerland to M^r. Chamberlayne 10 Cal. Jun. 1701. owns the Recit of the Societys Present of Books, and will speedily let ab^t. y^e Translation of them. That he has Translated T^r. Woodward's little Piece of the Usefulness of Catechetical Instructions — which together with Brays Lectures on the Catechism and the Example of what has been done in that Kind by the Bedford & Buckinghamshire Ministers — (He says) has raised such a Spirit not only in their Anniversary Synod, but also in the Magistrates themselves that at the request of the Ministers they have made a Public order about Catechising which was received with great Applause, and is wholly owing to the Civility of England — Exhorts the Society to goe on in their laudible enterprizes & promises that he will translate their Books with all the Fidelity and Exactness he is Capable of. That M^r. Hales has gained so great esteem amongst them that the Chief Ministers of Zurich have deputed one of their own Body to invite him thither — That as soon as M^r. Yates's Book of Reformation comes out of the Press he intends to make a ~~Tour~~^{Tour} with M^r. Hales & visit the Chiefs of the Helvetian Churches, and give the Society an account of their Success. Recommends to the Society the ^{Case} ~~Letter~~ of Ep^l. Westmyller Bomat Zurich and related to the Chief Families there ^{he being} ~~as~~ a person

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That has Served against the French at the Siege of Ramur &c, Says that his Commission was taken away from him under pretence that he was not a Swiss, tho the Contrary can be well attested, desires the Society to represent the matter to his Majesty, or at least to use their Interest with the Earl of Albemarle Generall of all the Swiss - Forces in the Service of the States Generall, and concludes how gratefull it will be to the whole Cant of Zurich

313

A Deacon Boothe from Easington in Durham to Mr Chamberlaine 6 June 1701 Says that he has been lately at Chester, where there are Religious Societies composed both of the Churchmen and Dissenters, but fears that they will not do much unless the Bishop of Chester would please to call upon them, That there is a Society lately erected at Warrington headed by Mr Hawy Minister of the Place. & Mr Blackburn a Neighbouring Justice of Peace, gives a good Character of them & wishes that the Society would write to them both. That there are three settled Presbyterian meetings in his Jurisdiction, but not frequented by any persons of note, that the Independents are very inconsiderable & Joyned with the Presbyterians that all the Anabaptists in his Jurisdiction ~~do~~ not frequented exceed 150. That the Quakers are ~~not~~ very Numerous in all the Trading Towns, at Burlington there are 20 Families at Stockton 30 at Sunderland 30 at Naindrop 12 &c. That the Papists are the most formidable of all the Dissenters, both for Quality and great Estates, that in St. there are 25 Families in Canth 20 in Bousclif 13 and in Durham a great number. That the Clergy of his Jurisdiction are very Regular, that there is catechising in every Church, & Prayers on holy days

Wednesdays & Fridays, and in some Places daily. That the act of Parliament against ~~Drury~~ &c and the Proclamations against Immorality are read regularly and that there is a particularly Care taken of the Colliers. That many Irregularities are reformed, and the Lords Day Strictly observed in all the great Towns and that his Instructions to the Clergy to prepare their young People in Lent for the Lament at Easter have been duly followed. That they have a Charity Schoole begun at Durham but no work houses. That they have no Clergy meetings nor lending Libraries. That Monthly Sacraments have been lately set up with good success in severall noted Places and hopes that no Considerable Parish will shortly want them. That severall Quakers have been reconciled to the Church lately. That they have no Societies for Reformation but if any of the Bishops of are in our Society would Engage any Lord of Durham to write to him about them he does not Doubt he says he could set up both them & Clergy meetings in a very few weeks.

314 M^r James Harris of Lantrisant in Glamorganshire 12 June 1701 to the Secretary owns the Receipt of the last printed Papers from the Society Recommends M^r George Howells a Justice of Peace and a very Zealous person, as a Lay Correspondent with the Society, says that Catechetical Lectures are promoted in divers places. That the Psalmes of David have been sett to good Tunes by some private hands, & able Masters have taught them to the People with great Advantage that severall of his Parishioners who are above 5 miles distant from

(22) The Church, do neither frequent his nor any other assembly,
That upon discourse with the most sensible of them, he finds
a spirit of Atheism or Indifferency runs through their Families
& has done so for some Generations, and desires the Society's
advice in this matter. Lastly wishes that the Lord
Keeper could be induced to put 3 or 4 of their Clergy into
the Commission of the Peace as has been done in other
Counties -

315 Mr. V. Ellison of Newcastle 13 June 1701 to the Secretary
sends a bill of 6^l 1^s 4^d for Dr. Bray's Books by which
when they are all sold, he shall be gained, he says 5^l 10^s
which he promises to lay out in books for the use of
the Poor Curacy - That their Societies are but just
~~a forming~~ ^{forming}, and as^{tho} any thing is done by them he
will communicate it to the Society &c

316 Mr. John Gibson of Welburn in the North Riding
Lay 16 June 1701 to the Secretary Returns his Thanks for
the 2 last Printed Papers sent him by the order of the
Society, that he read them with great Pleasure, and sent
Mr. Little of Gisborough those belonging to him, that
the said Mr. Little is very uneasy in his Ministry, being
malign'd by his Brethren in Cleveland who ~~cannot~~
count that Smugery which he feels Duty, that he has
daily Prayers & Catechising but doubts whether there
be ~~more~~ ^{same} that do the ~~same~~ - Lastly mentions a
small Sum he has sent up wth S^r W. Austler will
account for.

317 Mr. Sam. Wesley of Epworth in the Isle of Axholme

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Lincolnshire 16 June 1701 to the Secretary owns the receipt
of the Society's Letter dated 25 March, & Excuses his long
Silence - Says that he has been labouring ^{Ten} years to
carry on the Business of Reformation, and the greatest
part of last year in a small Society for promoting
than knowledge, with very little success, but hopes
he shall not despond. That he has some expectations from
the Society of 10 or 12 Clergy men, and that he has taught
the Children of his own Parish near two years. Gives
a particular account of y^e Number of Soules in each
Town of their Island viz that there are above 1100
Persons in Epworth the market Town & Center of
the ~~the~~ ^{ble} that all the Towns together make up abt 7000
Souls, that there is no Public Schools in his own
Parish, nor in most of the others, That it would be
a mighty advantage if a Charity School could
be set up in Epworth and the Poor of other Parishes
allow'd to send their Children thither gratis that
these People are to extreme Ignorant that ~~not~~
one in 20 can say the Lords Prayer right, nor one
30, y^e Belief That he has about 100 ^{Scholars} under his Care
and that he gives the Profits of those that pray for
their Learning amounting to 10 or 12th to an honest
man that assists him, That such a Charity School
might be procured if Coll. Whichcot would Interest
himself therein, and he doubts not of his engaging,
if Dr. Haley who married the sister to his Lady and
Daughter to Dr. Thomas Meers would put him upon
it, That ~~that~~ That their Society on the south side
of Trent have resolv'd to catechise their Parishes
all the Summer-half-year, and have begun
already, That one day in the week he sets apart
for Examining Servants and Adult Persons that

Not yett been at the Sacrament, That their Numerous
Poor want Bibles and all other good Books, But none
will ^{supply} ~~supply~~ them - That he has procured them at his
own Cost some pastorall Letters, & 11than Monitors &c.
That there is a noble work house erected at Hull and
a Society for Reformation, That he went over to
them lately and preacht upon the occasion, That there
are great things doing in Nottingham there where
they have already fixt Salaries for schools in every
Parish, That he shall have a large Account of
their Proceedings and will Transmitt it to the
Society if Desired, Complains that he stands alone
in this great work that among 7000 Souls there is
hardly one that will heartily assist him, and begs
the Prayers, Advice & Continued Correspondence of
the Society, which he says is the greatest comfort
he has in this world, - That he has sett up
Monthly Sacraments, but has not above 20 Commu-
cants at them, That there are no Papists nor Presbyter-
ians in his Parish - That there are about 40 Quakers,
and above 70 Anabaptists that insult him every where
and about 100 of Little or No Religion - That Mr. Smith
of Gainsborough has had no letter from the Society,
That if one were writt to him he would return an
Account that would be very Acceptable, and that if
he would engage therein and being in 1st Willoughby -
Hickman with him, they two could influence half the
Country - &c -

318 Mr. Wm Johns of Shrovd near Cirencester in Gloucester shire
28 June 1701 to the Secretary owns the Receipt of

The Society's Letter of the 22 May, but wants the Packet therein mentioned Gives an account of the Method he has used with his Parishoners to bring them off from their gross Ignorance of Divine Matters viz by plaine Preaching, catechising the Poor and their Children, - visiting particular Families, and dispersing good Books - among them, according to his Ability, and that he never part by any house or person upon the account of their differing from him in Religious matters, That the Effect herof has been, the setting up of a Religious Society which has been on foot these 2 or 3 Years, that they are but few yett very good - That about a 12 month agoe there was a Society erected for Distributing good Books, & teaching the Poor gratis, and that they are in a good Method, but that two things make the work - difficult viz: the Distance of Places and the multitude of poor People - lastly desires his Packets may be sent by the Gloathiers in Fryday-or Bridstreet. ~~Tortua~~

Lay 319 M^r ^{Dorset} Horton of Chadderton in Lancashire 4 april 1707 to the Secretary, says that in many Places Religion looks with a better Face and Debauchery less Impudently then formerly, greatly Commends the Zeal of the Clergy in those parts, That some parts of the County abound with Papists, but that there ^{are} but few in his Neighborhood, That the Quakers are numerous, but do not excrete, That many of the Magistrates seeme - resolv'd to execute the Laws strictly against vice, but the People are unwilling to inform. That Divisions & Animosities frustrate the Design of erecting Societies, and that there are Parochial Libraries setting up in the Neighbouring parts of Yorkshire where his Estate lies which he will particularly Encourage

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320

M^r. Thomas Newell from on board the Barfleur at Spithead 7 July 1701 to the Secretary. Declines sending with the Papers sent down for the Seamen. Least M^r. Sands the Chaplain to S^r G. Rook should resent it & desires that the Society will order them to be delivered to the said M^r. Sands &c

321

M^r. Samuel Wesley from Epworth in the Ile of Axholm to the Secretary 10 June 1701, owns the great Favour of the Society in Lending him a list of the Books and Papers by them Dispersed, And in permitting him to choose Such as he wants and desires a few of the following Sorts
1. Account of Charity Schools. 2. D^r. Woodward's Sermon on the Same Subject. 3. Formes of Subscription & others of Schools. 4. D^r. W. auct^r. of Religious Societies. 5. auct^r. of the work houses at Bristol. 6. auct^r. of the French Protestants Sufferings in the Gallies. 7. History of the Societies for Reformation. 8. Helps to a National Reformation. 9. vindication of Informers. 10. Caution to Prophane Swearers, tho there are but few Such in his Parish. 11. Persuasion to the observing the Lords Day, These he says are extremely wanting among them, 12. Christians Daily Devotion. 13. Keiths Serious call to the Quakers. Says farther that if he could get a Dozen of the abstracts of the Laws against Immorality &c in the broad Sheets he would Cause them to be posted up in y^e ale houses, and one in the market place promises to send shortly an account of the workhouses at Hull, and waits impatiently to see wth D^r. Halesy will

with Coll: Whithroft, lastly Lends inclosed a large —
account of the orders for Charity Schools in Nottingham-
shire the forme of Subscription of the Nobility and —
Gentry of that County, and a list of the Persons Names
and of the Severall Sums by them Subscribed. —

322. L^y J^r Francis Molineux from Teversall in Nottinghamshire
14 July 1701 to the Secretary, Signifies his Concern, that
his letter writt some time since should never come
to hand, which tho it was of no moment he says, yet was
an argument of his Respect, and an acknowledgment of
the Societys Favour to him — is very sensible of the Glory
of their Undertaking and of the necessity of it, there —
being such an universal Degeneracy of morals — That
the Difficulty of Succeeding ought to be no discourage-
ment and for his part, is what he has endeavourd and
what he shall continue to do to the utmost of his
Power, & will joyn both his Actions and Prayers for
a blessing on such undertakings. —

323 M^r Patrick Gourdon from on board the Swiftsure at
Spithead 15 July 1701 to the Secretary Says, that M^r Threll
had acquainted him that the Society had sent down
some papers to be dispart among the Seamen, and
directed to him, but at the same time declared he
would meddle no more in those matters, that —
thereupon he M^r Gordon had taken the Box of
Books into his Custody, & would keep them till he —
knew the Pleasure of the Society, that amongst
the

Pastorall Letters there were 100 in waleh, which with
 the leave of the Society he thinks to send into wales
 That he cannot learn wt S^r G. Rook has done with
 those papers that were put into his Hands, and that
 M^r Sands S^r George's Chaplain declines meddling
 with the Papers last sent without Directions from
 the Society, that he wishes the Society would send
 him a Letter, and another for S^r George unless
 they shall think fitt to take other ~~method~~ means
 upon the coming down of a Chaplaine General,
 Lastly that he has never received the Societys opinion
 of his Proposals for Propagating the Gospel
 among the Indians of North America —

- 324 The Lord Bp of Chester to the Secretary. Wigan
 18 July 1701. says. that he is returned to Wigan
 where he shall stay till September having finishd
 the Visitation of his Diocesse in which he has
 particularly recommended to his Clergy the
 Erecting Societies of discreet, sober, & Pious
 Persons for the Reformation of Manners, & in
 Great & Populous B. Towns for setting up Charity
 Schools — That some of each are already
 set up, that he hopes there will be more, & will
 give An Account of them — That there is but
 little hopes of the School at Liverpool by
 reason of the Charges the Inhabitants are
 involved in of building a Church & house
 for their Minister — That nothing can be

done neither, at Kendal, about a Lending Library, that Town being engaged in another Publick Work, but that the Mayor & the Minister have promist to erect a Society for Reformation; — Lastly that he finds his Clergy very Diligent in discharging the Duty of Catechising.

325 Comissary Bennet from Port Royal in Jamaica 11 May 1701 to the Secretary — owns the Recit of the Societies Letter & Thanks the Society for accepting his Sincere Endeavors as an Earnest of which he Transmitts a Copy* of what has been done in that Island pursuant to the Designs of the London Society — That his Excellency the Gouverneur being at some miles distance he knows not how he will answer the Letter to him, but in General that he is very sensible of the Honor conferd on him by the Society in Chossing him a Correspondent, & that the Clergy are secure of his Steadfastnesse — That as to Dr Bray he has recovered several of the Books designed for the Library of Port Royal & Desires a Compleat Catalogue of them &c — Lastly being Resolved to answer all the Societies ^{Letters}, by the Oxenden, Elias Pearce Master newly arrived, he apologises for the Shortnesse of this &c.

* Vid. Collection of Papers Numb.

326. Mr De Berringham from the Hague 22 July 1701
 Lay. N.S. to the Secretary, says that he is sensible
 of the Desire of the Society to facilitate a
 Correspondence with the Dutch to which they
 have no Aversion, but are frightened with the
 name of a Society, & thinks that the Bu-
 siness of Printing Books, & a Commerce of
 Letters does not require it, especially since he
 & Mr Jurien have ^{not} been able hitherto to
 carry on such a Correspondence alone, & that
 they offer to bear their share in the Charges &
 hopes however that when the Account of
 Societies for Reformation of Manners (which
 is now printing at Rotterdam) shall appear
 he may be able to persuade them That he in-
 tends to lay some of the said Books
 before the 3 Tables of their Sovereigns.
 Thanks the Society for their Kindness to
 Mr Vallone & desires the money may be re-
 turned by Mr Stanhop the English Envoy &c.
 That since Mr Vallone has left the Abby of
 Genievre (in which there are more men of
 Quality than in any other in France) five
 other Prebendaries are come from thence
 vizt. Mr Gagnier, De la Hense, De la Va-
 lette, Aubert & Boulon, besides Mr De-
 genteuil that left that Place 8 or 9 years
 ago, & that they hope Great things from
 that Society composed ^{of} Learned Men,

& such as have an abhorrence of Popery. ¹³¹
Flatters himself he says that such Proselytes
(if there were) a Toleration in France, & that
^{would very much}
~~his Meditation~~ forward the Conversion of
Papists in France, & that his Meditation on
the 11 Chap. of Revelations confirms him in
that Opinion, & Refers to the Book concern-
-ing the two Witnesses to write upon
which Subject Mr Vallone he says seems
to be born, wishes that his book were
read by the Bp of Worcester & the
other Prelates that understand French.
Lastly sends a Copy of the Memorial com-
-posed by Mr Benoit in order to Engage
the Dutch Gentlemen to enter into a
Correspondence with the English Society.

327 Mr Elias Neau from N. York in America 3
June 1701 to the Society, owns the Receipt of
their Letter of the 20 Octob. praises God for their
great Examples of Piety & humbles himself under
the Consideration of his own unworthynesse.
Promises to promote purity of manners & of faith to
the utmost of his Power & as farr as his worldly
Circumstances will give him leave.
Says he has communicated the Letter & Papers to
several English & French Gentlemen, particular-
-ly to Mr Versey an English, & Mr Peiret a French
^{Minister} who seem to be well disposed, but as to Mr Versey
he Intends to write to the Ld Bp of London about it.

Before he Engages in it, least he should be accused of
Noveltz, & that the rest are willing enough to join
with him provided the Gouvernor & Laws will
Authorise them — That the Death of the
Lord Beclamont will be some hinderance to
these affairs, it having Caused a great Ferment
among all the People, that the English & French
Write against the Dutch who only in the Life
time of the Late Gouvernor were put in to place
That the Country is so poor that it will be
Difficult to set up schools among them, tho
Every body ~~would~~ gives their Children some
Kind of Education — That the Little Tracts
should be translated into ^{the} 3 Common Languages
of the Country; English, Dutch & French —
Lastly he is sorry, he says that the Conversion
of the Quakers in Pensylvania is so much ex-
aggerated, & wishes there were but one hundred sincere
Proselytes.

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Mr Elias Neau from N. York 13. June 1701. to the
Society: Joyfully offers himself to be employed
them in the Promoting their Excellent Designs,
hopes that the Little Tracts of Devotion sent
by the Society may in time do good, the Country
being full of People that live without Religion
but that the Divisions occasioned by the Lord

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Bellamont between the English French & Dutch
does a great Deal of Mischief, that the
said 2^d excited those Troubles hoping to
make an advantage by them, but that God has
taken him at last out of this World.

That there are many sects among them
that have no Publick meetings.

That Mr Vesey will write to the Bp of London
for his Lops ~~Approval~~ least he should be
taken for a Schismatick or Heretick, that
Mr Peiret & Mr Basset one a French Minister
the other a Physician, are ready to joyn wth him.

That if a Governor would interest himself in
these Matters a great many would joyn wth him.

That the Society has been Imposed on by the
accounts of the Conversion of Quakers, there
being but a few truly Converted, & that those
which are, live in great Remissness.

That they are so farr from being able to sett up
Schools that they cannot maintain their Min-
isters, & that there are several Places in the
Country where there are none; that they are
overwhelmed with Taxes, & that their Governor
drain them.

That he himself is a Church Warden of a
French Church at York, ^{and they} he willingly Consents

to a strict observation of Discipline, but there are so many Incorrigible men among them that they Laugh at Excommunications & ex-communicators that these are their own terms, & therefore he Intreats the Society last of all to procure them More Power & Authority in order to abate the Flaghtinesse of these Transgress^{ors}.

329. M^r Gelieu Dean & minister of Neufchatel in the Name of the whole Body of Divines that Government, to the Society. 12 June 1701
Says That as they look upon our King to be the great Restorer of the Liberties of Europe so they Consider the Society as Restorers of Piety & good Manners, & that the Honor it has done them to chose one of their Members a Correspondent, & to write to their whole Body, has redoubled their Zeal of Imitating such an Example. That they are exceedingly sensible of these Marks of the Society's Goodnesse, & that they will fervently apply themselves to dissipate Ignorance Combat Error & to Revive the languishing Charity of Christians. That their

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has always had a Profound Respect for the
Church of England, & they have long'd for an
Opportunity of Entering into a Correspondence
with some of her Members, & lastly
that they will ever pray for the Prosperity

330. Mr Richard Byrns of Chichester in Stafford
shire to the Secretary 26 July 1701 accepts the
Correspondence, says that he is in the
Neighborhood of a great many poor
Ignorant People, that want Reformation,
& that he will contribute all that in him
lies to promote the Good & Generous
Designs of the Society.

331. Mr John Patam of Lutton on the Hill
Derbyshire 2 Aug. 1701. to the Secretary
says he has made it his Business
in Answer to the Desire of Dr Bray in his
Reasons for his Return into England,
to look out for Workmen for him, that
he has found 2 Young men a Bricklayer
& a Carpenter that are willing
to go to the Plantations, but want to
know the Terms &c.

332. Mr A. Smith of Gainsburgh Lincolnshire, 9 Aug.
1701 to the Secretary denies that any of the
Societys Letters ever came to his hands till that

of the 24th of July 1701, owns the great Occasion of Reformation, of Propagating Christian Knowledge & accepts the Correspondence.

333. Mr James Harris of Llantrisant Glamorganshire to the Secretary 10 Aug: 1701. says to John Arnold Esquire a Justice of Peace in Monmouth Shire would be very Zealous in Promoting the Business of Reformation if he had any of the Societys Papers relating to the Suppression of Vice & Immorality, & if he were writt to, has promist to Correspond with the Society - Complains that the great Age & Distance of their Diocesan is an hindrance to them in Carrying on their good Designs, & that he has not exercised his Episcopal Function especially in Ordination & Confirmation of Children for several Years, which omission he wishes the Arch-Bishop would please to supply.

334. Mr William Thowls Minister of an English Church at Rotterdam in Holland to Mr Rogers 19. N. S. 1701. Desires him to thank the Society for Chosing him a Correspondent, & promises to Comply with any Instructions they shall give him - says that he Can give but a little Account as yet of the small Account Flock whereof he has the Charge, that they have

no Establishment & little Encourag³⁷
ment to hope it.

335. Mr. J^r Foster of Deverel Longbridge
Near Warmister Wiltshire 12 Aug: 1701 to
The Secretary, owns the Rec^t of
Three Circular Letters from the Society,
which he has not answered sooner be-
cause he could not till lately gett an op-
portunity to Communicate the Design
to his B^p, & gett his express Approbation
Gives an Account of what he has been
doing many Years in his own Parish, viz. that
he sett up a small School, & Continued it some
time at his own Charges, that he employs
every Sundays Afternoon in instructing young
Persons in the Principles of the Christian
Faith & Practices according to the Method
of the Church Catechism - That he gives
his People Constant Opportunity of Holy Com-
munion every Lords Day, that this
Practice takes with some, but that others
oppose it because their Neighbors do not
like - that he has promoted the
meetings of some of his Brethren this 12
Years in order to engage them in the like
Measures, that he was used modestly & tem-
perately to suggest the great Benefit of such
a Practice to them, but since he has

heard of a Society that has acted with so much vigor, Resolution & Great Success he has been continually gaining ground, tho' but slowly, both with Clergy & Laity. That in Concurrence with the Hon^{ble} Society & their Directions he has gained these Points:

1. He has set up a Society within his own Parish of Elderly People Zealous & able, that the Substance of their Business, is the Promoting Piety among themselves, Reformation of manners in their Neighbors, & a godly Education of Youth. — 2. In subordination to this, there is another Society of Younger Persons whom he meets every ^{Satur} Day evening in the Church, & prepares them for the Celebration of the Lords Day, confirmation & Communion. — 3. That under ^{these two} there is a School formed for educating Poor Children, who are obliged to attend Divine Service once a Day & that a Stock is raised for them from the offertory. — That the Society of the Clergy in his Neighborhood does at present consist of seven Persons, that they are concerned

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Measures to enlarge their numbers
which they will extend both to ^{Lay} Laitie
& Clergy, & afterwards will recommend
a Lay Correspondent. - Lastly that he
has dispersed Dr Bray's Sermons but
Knows not what the success thereof
will be as yet.

336. Mr Wm Hodges Captain General of
the Fleet from on Board the Triumph
at St Kellen's 16. Aug: 1701. to the
Secretary owns the Receipt of his
Letters & of the Books & Papers sent
to Mr Gordon, which with those deli-
vered him by Mr G. Rook amounted
to the Number of 2000, & Consisted
of nine ~~several~~ different sorts, w^{ch}
being distributed through the Fleet w^{ould}
come to one Book or Paper ^{for every} ~~man~~
& seamen whose Number ^{he says} is about 15000.
That Mr G. & he being both of Opinion
that the West Ind'y Squadron ought to be
comprised in the Dividend (because
they might probably stay a long time
abroad, & be shifted from one ship to
another) he also gave them their share
notwithstanding they had been so largely
supplied by the Society before hand.

That Mr G. had called all the C^{pts} on
 Word first, & afterwards if Cha-
 -plains, & caused Mr Hodges's Comissⁿ
 to be read to them & that he took
 that Opportunity to give the Cha-
 -plains their Quotas. — That where
 there were no Chaplains he recommended
 of care of this Matter to the Res-
 -pective C^{pts}, & concludes that he
 shall thankfully receive the Advice
 & Instructions of the Society.

337. Mr L. Smith of Kimbolton Hunting-
 -donshire the Secretary. 19. Aug. 1701
 owns the receipt of a Letter from the
 Society of the 25 March last, which
 he did not answer sooner because he had
 nothing worth writing. — Says that
 some of the Clergy keep up a
 monthly meeting & they have provided
 their People with useful Books.
 That such as are ^{able} pay for the schooling of
 Poor Children. — That there is a Li-
 -brary begun at Kimbolton, That Mr
 Downes the Rector of Easing near Ab-
 -thampton would be an useful Man if
 Society would make him a Correspondent

338. Mr George Wheeler to the Secretary Durham
22 Aug: 1701. Desires ^{this letter} as it is now
corrected may be entered into the Society
Book - Says that he has spoke to the
Dean of Durham who promist to suscribe ^{ten} ~~ten~~ ^{up} ~~up~~
- needs towards the Charges The Charter,
& that it Deacon Booth will send ^{up} his
Subscription, & lastly desires some pri-
- ted Copies of the Charter to disperse
among the Northern Gentlemen. —

339 Mr W^m Johns of Stroud in Gloucestershire
23. Aug: 1701. owns the Receipt of his Letter of
the 1st July, thankfully accepts the Socie-
- ties offer of assisting him with some
of their Papers & small Tracts, of which
he acknowledges the Usefullness, & names
the several sorts wherewith he desires
to be provided, see the Letter, lastly gives his
Carriers Directions.

340. Mr W^m Beeston Gouvemor of Jamaica,
27. May ~~May~~ 1701. to the Secretary acknowl-
- ges the Necessity of Societies for propaga-
- ting Christian Knowledge & for Suppres-
- sing Vice & Immorality, Thanks the Society
for Inviting him into those Designs,
takes it to be a great Honor to him

& promises to give the Clergy of his Island all the assistance he is able —

As a Mark of ~~the~~ ^{his} ~~Society's~~ ^{Society's} approbation of the Societies Proceedings sends a Note for Ten Pounds & will readily contribute more as there shall be occasion. Lastly prays God to increase the Number & Stock of the Society.

341. MR Arthur Bedford of Bristol 3. Sept: 1741
the Secretary, says that he formerly writ to the Society about the Study of the Hebrew Language which he complains to be much neglected of late, notwithstanding its great usefulness in Divinity, its Affinity to the other Oriental Languages, & the great Commendations given of it by Arch Bishop Usher, Erpenius, Buxtorf, Dr Walton. Junius particularly represents the Bad Consequences of the Neglect of this Study in Relation to our Disputes with the Jews, who have been very Instrumental in the increase of Socinianism Deism &c, & who by studying the Original Language of the Old Testament are able to baffl those who produce no better Authority than a Translation; if the Society pleases, he offers to impart his Thoughts farther on this. Lastly desires the Secretary to acquaint some of the Members of the Society for ~~D~~ Reformation of Manners that he has received ^{their} Pardon

342. Dr ~~J~~ Todd of Lenth in Cumberland 8
 September. 1701, to the Secretary, says that
 he has received all the Papers that were
 sent him, & has communicated them as
 desired — That of the many Thousand
 Books distributed in that Diocese, &c.
 Chiefly related to the H. Sacrament al-
most everyone of them has brought a
Communicant to Church more then usual
 & that there is a visible Reformation
 of Manners every where. — That he
 has prevailed to have a Society formed as a
 Vestry, that there are 3 or 4 Justices con-
 cerned in it, that some of the Chief
 of the Clergy have engaged themselves
 to Preach Monthly where there are no
 sermons, to the great Satisfaction of
 People who flock to them mightily
 & have encreased their Curates ~~their~~ sa-
 laries — That he reads the Act of
 Parliament of the King's Proclama-
 tions against Vice &c & preaches sut-
 ably to the Occasion — Thanks the So-
 ciety for sending him the Paper of
 the Clergy in Jamaica &c, & says that
 the only Reason of his Brothers Stay
 there is to ^{be} serviceable to the Society &
 the Interest of Religion in that Place
 gives his service to Dr Bray & owns
 the receipt of his Papers & wishes the
 Publick could be brought into his Designs
 which are not only too great for any
 Private Person but even for the whole Clergy

144 The 2^d Bp of Chester from Wigan Lancashire
343. =shire 10 Septemb. 1701 to the Secretary,
Recommends two Correspondents for
Nantwich viz: Mr Lancaster a Clergy
man & Mr Aldersay a Lay-man who has
been many years a Justice of Peace.
Sends a Bill for Five Pounds towards
the Charges of the Charter — Lastly
^{says} that the Work of Reformation goes
on well at Wigan; & that a School for
poor Children is lately erected at Man-
=chester.

344. Mr In^o. Tatam of Sutton on the Hill in
Darbyshire 10. Sept. 1701. to the Secre-
tary. ^{That} he is glad to hear y^e Pious Design
y^e Society have met with so public
an Encouragement as to obtain a Charter where
Objection of Magnificence made use of ^{by} many is
away — Wishes that the Society would
to his Diocesan who intends to meet his
the 3^d of next month at Darby insinuates how
useful it would be if each ^{Minister} would form a Socy
out of the most substantial men of his Par-
for the Propagating X.ⁿ Knowledge & suppress
vice & Immorality — Complains of y^e same
Ignorance of the Northern Parts of Dar-
Occasioned by the Smallness of the Clergy
=tenance — Desires the Secretary to acquaint
Corporation for Promoting the Gospel in for
that there are 2 young men, Good Mechanics
would go into y^e Plantations upon due In-
=ment &c. See his former Letter.

Mr Samuel Thax of Warrington in Lancashire. 25 Aug: 1701. to the Secretary & turns Thanks for the Surprising Honor the Society has conferred on him & accepts the Correspondence says that ever since it has fallen to his Lot to be the Schoolmaster (as well as Minister) of that Town, for the Maintenance of himself & his family (the Church being Stript of the great Tythes for 40 Years to come, & he not putting his Parishioners upon Contributions) he has Endeavoured to Cultivate the morals of young Persons committed to his Charge, besides which, he maintains an Usher at his own Cost to teach Poor Children to read write & their Catechism; that he himself Catechises weekly in y^e School, & on the Lords Day, to which end he drew up a Small Piece intituled Advice to young Persons relating both to Faith & Practice, & distributed it freely to his Parishioners & Scholars. — Approves of the Societies Endeavor of Propagating Religion in Foreign Parts, & wishes that their Parish were able to Contribute towards the Charge of Libraries, but adds that they have expended above 1000^l lately on their Steeple &c. — Lastly says that he should be thankful to the Society for any ^{farther} Direction

346 Mr David Heart from Portsmouth 16. Sept.
1701. to the Secretary - Congratulates y^e
Society abt the Charter & Desires to see
a Copy of it - Recommends Mr Henry
Stanford as a Gentleman that has been v^l
Instrumental in the Business of Reformation of Manners, & wishes y^t he were
made known to some of the members of that
Society &c.

347 Mr Patrick Gordon from on board the Swiftsure in
Torbay 17 September, 1701 to the Secretary - Says that
he frequently thinks upon his Voyage to America in or-
der to propagate Christian Knowledge among the
Native Indians, Proposals for which, he formerly
printed, & being now abt to publish a New Edition
of his Geographical Dictionary he desires that
the Society would examin & correct those Proposals
as it is a matter of great Moment hopes that
Society will furnish him with ample Instructions
concerning it.

348 Mr Osterwald of Neuchatel in Switzerland 17 Sept.
to the Secretary - says that he has not heard that
Letter wth the Body of their Devines returned by
their Dean Mr Gelieu, in answer to one from the
Society) has been Received - Repeats w^t he formerly w^r

to Mr Masson relating to Forming of young ministers for Holy Orders, see his letter. — Approves mightily of the Societies Letter to Zurich & of ^{wh} he has seen a copy — Says that little can be done in Reforming of Manners as long as mens Minds are divided, ^{wh} will be whilst they dispute, & whilst the External parts of Worship & Religion are different, however, People begin to free themselves from Prejudices Daily & things look as if a new Portion of the Spirit of God did spread itself everywhere — That in the State of Neuchâtel they begin to discover the Imperfections in their Worship, but that in so nice a point they must proceed cautiously — That the Greatness & Merit of Gods Spirit & Temp: that compose the Society silences some of their Rigid Divines. — Commends Mr Franchin of Geneva as also Mr Zeller of Zurich, for manage a Correspondence at Basel he recommends Mr Samuel Verrenfels, whose Learning, Judgement & Goodness he extols very much, particularly says that he is printing in Holland his Theses of Logomachies, that he earnestly Labors the Reconciliation of Protestants & in order thereto has drawn up a Piece ^{wh} he calls De Pace Protestantium, & has taken a Journey thro the Chief Cities of Switzerland on the same Account. — gives an acc^t of the means he ups to bring about his good Designs, see his Letter to Mr Masson. — Adds that he has handed abt a little Manuscript concerning

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the Defects of their Worship & Liturgies — And con- 350
cludes that they are going this Winter to take
new Measures for the Instruction of their young

349 Mr Ludolf from the Hague 29 Sept: 1701, to
Secretary — says that at Amsterdam he met ^{the} a
Pious greek Merchant lately come ^{from Persia} by the
way of Astracan, Moscow, & Archangel, who told
that the Muscovites have no new Patriarch as yet
& that the Russian Metropolitans, have very much op-
posed him of Rezan from ascending, to that Di-
=nity, tho' he was a Person of Great Reputation
for Learning & Piety — That the Czarovich or
eldest son of the Czar is tutored by a Polonian
who is a Disciple of Jesuits & that those People have
at last got footing at Moscow, that they also caress excellently
the Armenian Abp. who is now at Paris, & that
they have got severall young Grecians & Armenians
into their colledge where there was a particular In-
=stitution for training up Armenian Lads in the
Romish interest & Religion (y increase of which he
attributes to that Blind Zeal among Protestants —
That the Jew that lead so many of his Nation to Jeru-
=salem & that Preacht Repentance with an uncommon
& Ability is dead there — That Mr Paul (y Fifth) mon-
man is put into that Rasphouse at Amsterdam —
Mr de Berrighen told him they are going to set
a Society at Berlin — That he hears a great con-
=ter of that Portuguese Convert, but that Molinos the
Spaniard shows more Learning then Real Holinesse.

350 Mr Vincent Edwards of Alnwick in Northumber-
-land 30, Sept, 1701, to the Secretary; Desires the
Society to send him 300 of each of the Papers against
Swearing & Profanation of the Lords Day - That
they have had preaching at their monthly
meetings for these last five months past which
has been mostly at Alnwick. Lastly, if they have
Justices in those parts on whose Company they can
depend -

351 Mr Jonathan Blackburn from Warrington in Lan-
-cashire 3. Octob. 1707. to the Secretary - Excuses
his not answering the Societys Letter sooner, &
wishes he may deserve the Character as has been given
of him - That Mr Shaw has engaged a considerable
number of y^e Inhabitants of Warrington into an
Association ag^t Vice & Immorality, y^e good Effects of
w^{ch} are y^e such as were addicted to swearing begin
to leave it off - & Lastly y^e a great number of y^e common
sort are much Reclaimed.

352 Mr John Price of Wrexham in Denbysheire, 4 Oct. 1707
to the Secretary, says if he has made a strict En-
-quiry after Boreman (a fellow y^e imposed on the
Ld Bp of London, & Dr Bray (being a concealed Papist)
in the Business of
the Protestant Missions into N. America) but
cant yet hear of him - That as to their Society they
find y^e Gentry hearty & zealous enough in y^e matter of
Schools, y^e he has one School set up already in his Parish
& a Promise of subscriptions for more. w^{ch} they can have fit
Persons to undertake the work, for y^e at present they are in
great want of Persons thoroughly qualified for so good & necessary
employment.

Arch Deacon Booth of Easington in Durham 13 Oct.
to the Secretary says ^{to} the Bp of Durham send-
lately for all the Constables in Town & gave ^{me} a
strict Charge to preserve good order in ^{the} city &
discharge their Duty wthout favor or affection,
w^h he swore the New Mayor he orderd him to be
vigilant in suppressing Vice & Immorality, & to have
a Watchfull Eye over ^{the} Constables, & ^{his} L^ops he
assur'd him ^{that} he will give as strict a Charge to
all schoolmasters in relation to their scholars. ^{That}
wth such a second he hopes to reform ^{the City of Durham} ~~the city~~
that he has got a list of Publick houses in order
to suppress such as are scandalous, & of such as
frequent no Publick place of worship, & ill Livers.
That he has got a List of honest Pious Persons
to make Constables of. That ^{the} Mayor has promised
zealously to assist him, as also another Gentleman
of considerable Fortune ^{that} never acted as a Justice before.
Wishes ^{to} the. A Bp of Canterbury would write to
Lord of Durham in comendation of w^h he has done.
Lastly informs ^{the} Society ^{that} he shall hold his visita-
tion abt a fortnight hence, & will readily re-
ceive such Instructions for his Clergy as the
Society shall think fitt to give him.

354 M^r Deffray of N. Dumny in Kent. 9th October 1701
to the Secretary excuses his not writing lately to
Society. Says he has recommended the great undertaking
of promoting Christian Knowledge to the revered M^r John
Thomas Vicar of N. Dumny who offers to subscribe [£]
yearly towards the business of the plantations, & that
their religious Society goes on to promote religion.

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And in opposing the growth of Anabaptism that the Clergy
of the Society of Lenteden geives them encouragement but
cannot gett the magistrates on their side that they have also
tried to reclaim old offenders by printed papers and by letters
but in vain. That they have set up a religious Society at Ashford
And another at Lyme near Gloucester and Lastly that they have
set a box of Charity among their Societies in order to put out poor
Children to School and hope to enter upon that work Speedily

355 M^r Thomas Todd of the vaille in Jamaica July 1701 to the
Secretary Says that he has received no letter this twelve month from
the Society, to which he is sure he returned an answer signifying
his readyness to comply with their proposals - that he has inclosed
a copy to the articles agreed on by the Clergy of that Island
That he will shortly send an account of their Church affairs
Recommends the bearer as an object of Charity &c

356 M^r Scherer of St Gall in Swisserland 30 Septemb. 1701 to the
Secretary, Excuses his not writing sooner, being in his tour of
the Grisons country together with M^r Hales, and also dayly
Expecting the Latin Circular Letter to the Ministers of Zurich
and of the other protestant Cantons. - that in their Journey
among the grisons and cantons of Glaris, Zurich, Schaff-
hausen &c they acquainted the respective Ministers with the
designs of the Society and that the whole church of Swisserland
was Exceedingly rejoiced with their Message, as will more fully
appear he says by the inclosed originall Letters from the
Reverend Dr Wettenius Rector of the university at Basel,
M^r Zeller of Zurich, & M^r Otto Graps of Togana to M^r Robert
Hales whom they still call after the title of his father -

(Having no name ^{for Esquire} ~~to enquire~~) according to the Custom of the Country, adds, that some raise doubts and scruples, which would absolutely vanish if the L^d B^p of London would please to sign his mind by one of his Secretaries, gives a great character from ~~Hottenger~~ ^{Hottenger} of the works of our English Divines and particularly for Jⁿ Bayly, Dyke, Hall, Perkins, Watson &c. & owns the esteem, the English have reciprocally testified for his Country men as ^{Zwingli} Bullinger. — that their magistrates distribute good ^{books} ~~to the~~ that there are many Societies of late years set up in several places of Germany, but that they do not subscribe to their Confessions, nor publish any of their own; & greatly commends the orthodoxy of the English Society. Lastly concludes what great things their Consuls, the Antistes of the Church (well known to the L^d B^p of London) their pastors &c. reap from the noble undertakings of the English Society.

457 M^r Frank of Cranfield in Bedfordshire 27 octob. 1705 to the society thanks the society for M^r wallons book which he intends to put in the library at Bedford. Resolved to hear of their meeting after a long suspension of business says that he can give but little account of the affairs of his country which are greatly retarded by publick divisions, that in his own parishes he has taken upon him the burden of overseer of the poor for the sake the school by him erected the last year that he has made it a kind of an hospital, that there are 32 poor children perfectly maintained that they get already surpass their charges, & that as they improve in their work, and lessen their expences they will encrease the numbers. that besides those 32 that are entirely provided for the overseers of the poor keep divers others at work and pay their Masters that all this is done by the private contributions of 6 or 7 of the that the school is divided into two apartmen^{ts} and governed by dames that by this they are wholly freed from the poor children that used to beg in the streets. That they found it difficult to get the parents to part with their children but where a family is charged to the parish ~~and~~ of allowance they take off one of their

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Mr W^m Fortman of Shelsy Beaucham in Worcester-
shire 28 Octob. 1701 to the Secretary - Owns the
Recit of the first Circular Letter from the Society
& says that it was no little Advantage to him in
exciting several Eminent Persons in the City of
Worcester to form themselves into a Society, con-
sisting of several Capital Citizens & Ministers all of
the Church of England, who agree to meet
weekly &c That he hopes to set up 2 or 3 Societys
in that City - That there are several in
the market Towns round about them, & that it is
easy to see the hand of God is with them - He gratefully
acknowledges the Assistance he has received from some
Worthy Persons in London in Unum Necessarium,
& particularly from the Bp of London - Lastly
signifies his great Readiness of joining th the Society
&c.

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Mr Vincent Edwards from Alwark Northum-
berland 30 Octob. 1701, to the Secretary says that
he is sorry the Society so far understood his last Letter
as to believe he would beg of them the Price he
sent for because he did not Expressly mention
the reimbursing of them, & that he did not before
imagin that the Society could have so mean
an Opinion of y^m as to think they had not the
hearts to lay out so small a sum for Papers &c
That they are broke up till 15 Febr. & lastly are
clear of the great Progresses of the Society, &c

Mr Edw Kilingworth of Lilborne near
 Daventry to the Secretary 10 Nov. 1701 - says that
 his Pious & Ingenious Letter of the Society has
 by Copies been Communicated to many Divines
 were very well pleased to it - That as tokens
 his Zeal for the same cause he has sent 2
 one to the Learned Deists & other to the
 Unlearned Infidels abt the Resurrection of our
 Saviour & the Credibility of the Scriptures, that
 the Society thinks fit to Print them - he
 not have them part wth the Propriety to any
 - seller &c - That he would write an Incouragement
 to Informers if the Society Judges it necessary
 & desires to know w^h Sermons are printed
 upon y^e Subject besides Dr Woodward's, Den
 & Barton's - That the Neighbouring Cler
 - men give each other catalogues of their
 instead of Lending Libraries. That they
 have sent for 100 of Bp Williams's Catechism
 That they are Endeavoring to set up prayer
 in week days too much neglected - That
 some Ministers distribute comon Prayer Bo
 & the Letter from a Minister to his Parishes
 - pers - That the New years gift is very
 acceptable - That any thing written abt Com
 - Prayer, reading y^e Scriptures, & Religiousness
 an Oath, Conversion, Observing y^e Lords day, ag
 Drunkenness &c, would be very welcome.

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Arch Deacon Booth of Easington near
Durham to the Secretary 11 Nov 1701 - says
He hopes that the Letter which his Grace
of Canterbury has promised to write to
the Bp of Durham will have it's desired
Effect - That the Copies of his B^r Hales's
Letters came safe to his hands, & desires
to see such as have been lately received.

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M^r Anthony Smythe of Gainsborough,
Lincolnshire 12 Nov 1701 to the Secretary
~~says~~ Excuses himself for not answering
the Societies Letter sooner - says He has
taken care about the Education of Chil-
dren & is ready to account for it -
That he has caused Immoral & Profane
Persons to be punished - That his Direction
for Packetts is by the Lincoln Carrier -
That the Business of his Cure will hin-
der him from writing often, that he has
Buried above an Hundred Persons since Lady
Day last, that he has no Assistant, that he reads
Prayers every day, & Preaches twice each Sunday.

M^r R Bynns of Cheadle in Stafford
18 Nov 1701 to the Secretary, Says that
has received but 2 Letters from the Lord
That his Letters come by the Stone Bag
Carrier lies at the Swan with 2 Necks in
Lad Lane & sets out every Munday for New
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